

THE TIMES Monday

Feud... Salman Rushdie, Booker Prize winner for his novel of India, *Midnight's Children*, has focused his new book on Pakistan, against the background of the feud between President Zia and executed Prime Minister Bhutto. As Karachi erupts again, Spectrum presents the first of three extracts from *Shame*, to be published next month.



...for Sport
The start of the football season, the Fourth Test, the Dutch Grand Prix, athletics in Cologne, 11 race meetings, showjumping at Hickstead - it's the biggest sporting weekend of the year.
Here today...
Modern Times doggedly pursues the delights of greyhound racing.

Pound slips against the dollar

The pound lost ground against a strong dollar yesterday, slipping 65 points to close at \$1.5015, having fallen below \$1.50 at one stage.

However, it recovered against continental currencies. Page 11

Court challenge on 'open skies'

The High Court has granted British Airways the right to challenge the Government's "open skies" policy designed to encourage airline competition. A hearing is expected in October. Page 2

Escape control

After discovering a warren of escape tunnels under a camp housing Arab prisoners at Ansar, south Lebanon, the Israeli Army has moved all 5,000 inmates to a temporary compound until a permanent camp is completed. Page 6

Cardinal ill

Cardinal Terence Cooke, aged 62, Archbishop of New York, is terminally ill with leukaemia and could die within "a matter of months", the archdiocese announced.

Angola mission

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General, met a bizarre reception in Luanda, Angola, as he arrived for talks on Namibia. Page 6

Petrol stamps

Trading stamps which can be redeemed against package holidays are to be offered at 400 garages and filling stations in Wales and the West Country. Page 3

Jails threat

Prison officers in Northern Ireland are threatening an overtime ban which will mean police being drafted in on Monday to run jails. Kidnap victim freed. Page 2

Scientific talks

The meetings on the last day of the conference on the British Association for the Advancement of Science are reported on page 4.

Sind violence

All police have been cancelled in Sind province as the Pakistani authorities prepare for a possible third week of violent demonstrations. Page 6

Cook triumphs

Spin bowler Nick Cook put England in a commanding position in the fourth Cornhill Test match yesterday as he cut through the New Zealand first innings. Report, page 16

Leader page 9
Letters: On BAOR, from Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeech, and Mr M Chichester, Lord's pictures, from Mr E W Swanton. Leading articles: Mr Steel and the Liberals; Madrid conference; British earthquakes. Features, page 8
The Tolstoy in Stalin's pocket: Roy Strong takes a trunk route and Peter Nichols takes the train.

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Soviet deal depends on Nato retreat over cruise

Andropov offers to destroy SS20s moved from Europe

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Andropov has offered to "liquidate a considerable number" of Soviet SS20 missiles as part of an overall agreement on the reduction of medium-range missiles in Europe.

His move came in an interview in today's issue of *Pravda*, released in advance by Tass. He said that provided the US did not deploy new missiles in Europe in December, the Soviet Union would reduce the number of medium-range missiles in Europe to the level equal to the number of missiles of Britain and France.

In doing so it would "liquidate all the missiles to be reduced", including a "considerable number of the most modern missiles, known in the West as SS20s".

Mr Andropov said his offer showed that Nato allegations that Russia would merely re-locate its missiles in the Soviet far east were "totally groundless". There were therefore no grounds whatever for fears expressed by China and Japan.

Diplomats said the Kremlin had previously only undertaken to remove its missiles beyond the Urals, not to destroy them.

Mr Andropov described his latest initiative as being of "exceptional importance" and a

"new manifestation of good will" by the Soviet Union.

Western diplomats commented that although the offer held out some hope of progress at the Geneva talks, which resume on September 6, it was still conditional on a Nato agreement not to deploy cruise and Pershing 2 weapons and on the inclusion of British and French missiles in the talks. Both Soviet standpoints have been rejected repeatedly by the Western powers.

Mr Andropov offered last December to balance medium-range missiles against the nuclear forces of Britain and France, which Nato regards as independent deterrents.

He subsequently clarified this to mean that Moscow would count missile warheads rather than launchers, a bone of contention at Geneva, since SS20s have three independently-targeted warheads.

In the *Pravda* interview Mr Andropov dismissed claims that Washington had shown flexibility at Geneva, saying this was a "mockery of common sense".

If Russia reduced its medium-range missiles while allowing Nato to move new missiles into Europe to balance against the remaining Soviet rockets "we would not only

have unilaterally reduced our arsenal... but also have given our blessing to new American missiles targeted against us and our allies."

The Soviet leader gave no hint of what measures Moscow would take if the Geneva talks broke down and the Nato deployments went ahead in December.

Mr Andropov said an agreement at Geneva was still possible. One would not have to wait long if Nato was prepared for an agreement on equal terms, he said.

He indicated that he saw no reason to include China or Japan in the talks, since missile deployments in the eastern part of Russia were "completely irrelevant" to their subject matter.

Diplomats said further Soviet manoeuvring could be expected before the early resumption of the Geneva talks requested by Moscow.

The offer to destroy some SS20s was an advance on the position taken in April by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, who said that whether SS20s would be relocated or destroyed would be a matter for negotiation.

Japan rearms, page 4
Malta sidestepped, page 6
Leading article, page 9



Man and missile: President Yuri Andropov and the SS20, a "considerable number" of which he has promised to destroy.

Challenge yachts get 'all clear'

From David Miller, Newport, Rhode Island

The New York Yacht Club yesterday climbed down on all controversial points involving the Australian and British yachts involved in the America's Cup challenge series elimination finals to commence tomorrow.

A statement issued by Mr Robert Stone, the commodore of the prestigious NYCC, which has held the trophy for 130 years, said that all matters were resolved.

This statement brings to a close a period of sustained hostility conducted by NYCC, against the foreign challengers, which has caused more ill-feeling than any of the controversies which have been a feature of the competition down the years.

It said questions relating to the keels of Australia II and Victory 33, and their design, had been resolved. The Americans had protested that the winged keel of the Australian yacht, and its partial copy by the British, gave the boats an illegal advantage.

"We have now received verification from the international Yacht Racing Union that an interpretative ruling respecting the design of the British keel was issued in 1982", Mr Stone said. "That ruling under the IYR regulations is controlling for the 1983 match and the NYCC accepts it as such - also that the ruling applies to the keel of Australia II."

Elimination races page 15

Steel attacked over dictatorial approach

By Anthony Berins, Political Correspondent

One of Mr David Steel's prime adversaries in his confrontation with Liberal activists yesterday accused his leader of adopting a "dictatorial, Thatcher-type" approach to the party.

Mr Tony Greaves, full-time organising secretary for the Association of Liberal Councilors, said that in the past, when the party had been smaller, the leader had been elevated out of all proportion to the point at which he had been regarded as a Prime Ministerial figure within the party.

But Mr Greaves commented in an interview on BBC radio's *World at One* programme: "Liberalism is about cooperation, developing a consensus and leadership by example and motivation, and not the dictatorial Thatcher-type leadership."

"The problem is that we have got to match the two together. The time has come to develop a much more cooperative leadership."

In a letter this week to the 16 other Liberal MPs, Mr Steel illustrated complaints about party indiscipline and "sloppiness" by citing a bulletin produced by the association during the general election.

According to Mr Steel, when the party's General Election committee attempted to block publication of the bulletin, which highlighted Alliance policy deviations from the Liberal line, they were told that Mr Greaves had threatened to resign and to go on television to denounce the Alliance package.

Mr Steel demands in his confidential letter: "Has he been fired for disgraceful conduct?"

Mr Greaves said yesterday: "I don't know where he gets this from. There was never any question of the publication of that mailing being stopped. It was never discussed."

Mr Steel's letter also provoked stern criticism yesterday from some of his parliamentary colleagues. Mr Cyril Smith, MP for Rochdale, who was criticized for refusing a portfolio post in the Liberal team, said that one of the reasons why he was pushing for the election of a deputy leader was that there should be greater consultation within the parliamentary party.

"No one works harder than David Steel", Mr Smith said. "The problem is that he hasn't the time to do the consultation. His contact with colleagues is very limited indeed."

Yet when Mr Steel had dealt with the deputy leadership and chairmanship possibilities in his letter, Mr Smith said he had referred to the danger of creating more "chiefs than Indians."

The tone of Mr Steel's letter is summed up in just three sentences. He says: "Those who want us just to play politics had better clear out now."

"I am certainly willing and indeed keen to continue as leader, but only on the basis that the party itself is gearing its efforts to offering an alternative government to Mrs Thatcher at the next general election."

"If it wants to ponder about the sidelines, I will be happy to remain as a loyal member, but not to continue indefinitely as leader."

Leading article, page 9

John Brown to make 500 redundant

By Andrew Cornelius

John Brown, the troubled engineering group, yesterday announced that 500 employees are to be made redundant among the 1,700 at its gas turbine division at Clydebank.

The company said this was because of reduced demand in the international power-generation market. Detailed discussion on the redundancies will begin next week.

The news comes after the collapse this week of a £30m deal to sell the John Brown Engineering gas-turbine division to Hawker Siddeley. The company said that it foresees a good future for the business with the reduced workforce.

Clydebank employees were given a warning of redundancies at a meeting several weeks ago.

Mr John Smith, MP for Monkland East and Energy Spokesman for the Labour Party, fears the company might go under after the collapse of the negotiations with Hawker Siddeley. He believes the Government should take an interest in its future to prevent this.

However, the company said the talks with Hawker Siddeley broke down because of a failure to agree on its future direction, not because it is unprofitable.

The John Brown group has debts of £105m and it expected the disposal of the gas-turbine division would reduce borrowings.

Miners vote to accept closure

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Coal industry leaders were confident last night that their swift action in closing two pits had defused any threatened militancy after miners at the doomed Cardowan colliery, near Glasgow, voted decisively against industrial action.

The 3-2 (328-195) vote in a secret ballot at Cardowan influenced a later meeting of the South Wales executive of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), which was called to discuss the closure of the Brynllw pit, near Swansea. This offered a muted "invitation" to the men at the pit to back industrial action when they meet next Wednesday.

National Coal Board (NCB) officials decided on a quick closure of the two mines, which together employ 1,400 miners, after rejecting final appeals by the NUM. Production at Cardowan ceased last night and salvage work will start on Monday.

Cardowan, the last remaining pit in Lanarkshire was earmarked for closure by the NCB because of geological difficulties, and a collapse in markets that meant the pit was heading for a £10m loss this year.

Miners have been offered redundancy, early retirement or offered jobs in the pit field, with about 150 of the 800 at the pit being kept on for the salvage work. The NCB said last night that it would now concentrate on reducing miners to other jobs. Miners with up to 35 years' service could qualify for £25,000 pay-offs with about £100 a week until they reach retirement age.

A special meeting of the South Wales NUM executive heard the Cardowan vote before taking its decision and was influenced by the news from Scotland, according to Mr Emyln Williams, the South Wales union president.

He said that if the 639 Brynllw miners call next Wednesday for industrial action, they will have full union backing.

Mr Emyln Williams: Miners' action will be backed

Shopkeeper's 17 'disasters'

Unluckiest man in France

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A few weeks after that, it caught fire and was then stolen on four different occasions, each time being returned even more badly damaged. Twice, a lorry dumped its entire load on his bonnet.

He bought a cement mixer to do repairs on his house, only it was crushed by a car whose driver had lost control.

Even his billiard table was smashed to bits after being dropped by a removal firm. At around the same time, he suffered his fourteenth bone fracture while playing rugby.

Last November, his chimney and part of his roof were blown off. Then, in March this year, he was subjected to long hours of questioning by the police, after a professor committed suicide in the cellar of his shop. Finally, a large part of his house was destroyed by fire this summer.

"From now on, I'm no longer going to walk under ladders, and when I see a black cat, I'll cross to the other side of the road. With such bad luck one can no longer afford to make a mistake," M Acheriaux said.

Illingworth wants to quit Yorkshire fray

By Richard Streeton

Yorkshire cricket was threatened with its biggest turmoil so far when Raymond Illingworth offered to resign as captain and manager yesterday. He was sick and tired, he said, of the "aggro" he and his family have had since returning to the county, and he specifically mentioned in this context the pro-Boycott faction.

"If Yorkshire will pay me up on my contract I will leave now", he said at Scarborough before the start of Yorkshire's match with Gloucestershire. "I do not see why I should be playing first-class cricket at 51 to try to help Yorkshire and at the same time have to put up

with a constant barrage of attacks from Boycott supporters."

Illingworth's outburst followed a demand from Sid Fielden, a Yorkshire committee member and Barnsley detective sergeant, that the club's general committee investigate what was termed, in a letter to Yorkshire's chairman, Michael Crawford, "an unsolicited attack on Boycott". This was a reference to Illingworth's action in reporting Boycott to the club for slow scoring in a game at Cheltenham 10 days ago.

Boycott was later reprimanded by Yorkshire's so-called peacekeeping committee,



Illingworth: 'Constant barrage of attacks' though Boycott's supporters felt that both the original complaint and the reprimand were unjustified. Illingworth has since been backed by Yorkshire spectators. Mr Crawford confirmed last night that both Sgt Fielden's letter and Illingworth's offer to resign would be discussed by the general committee next Thursday.

Ironically, they might decide that Yorkshire's interests would best be served if both Illingworth and Boycott left the club. Boycott's one-year playing contract expires next month and whether it was to be renewed for a further 12 months was originally to be settled at a committee meeting on October 3.

Illingworth was intending to relinquish his caretaker captaincy after this season but has more than a year of his agreement as manager to run.

Holidaymakers see pilot's death plunge

An RAF pilot died yesterday after guiding his stricken jet away from hundreds of holidaymakers on the east coast. Crowds on Scarborough's North Bay beach watched as the Lightning plunged into the sea 200 yards off-shore.

Eye-witnesses said that the aircraft, from RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire, had made several low-level passes over the beach when its engines failed.

An RAF spokesman said that the pilot's name would not be released until next of kin had been informed. Meanwhile, Britain looked all set for its busiest Bank Holiday on the roads, with millions of people heading for the coast, the Automobile Association predicted yesterday.

With forecasters promising good weather almost everywhere, roads to the seaside and other tourist centres were already jammed last night. "We are in for an old-fashioned bumper-to-bumper weekend", said an AA spokesman.

British Rail is also expecting considerable demand, and is running 300 extra trains over the Bank Holiday.

The warm British weather seems to be having some unusual repercussions. Thousands of Britons are heading for the Continent, apparently in search of cool breezes.

The British Airports Authority said it expected about 560,000 passengers through Heathrow and Gatwick over the weekend. A British Airways official said: "It is hot over here, but there still seem to be a lot of people who want to get away from it all." They could be seeking cooler weather, he suggested. Weekend temperatures in Britain should be in the high 70s F.

More than 150 police reinforcements were being drafted on the Isle of Wight yesterday to help cope with an expected influx of 8,000 "Mods". All island police leave has been cancelled for the Mods' annual rally.

TV-am takes peak breakfast ratings lead

TV-am's ratings revolution, induced by Roland Rat, pushed the commercial station in front of its BBC rival, Breakfast Time, for the first time during peak breakfast viewing last week.

Figures produced by BARB, the independent ratings analysts, gave TV-am a peak audience of 1.2 million before 9am, 100,000 more than the BBC programme.

Mr Greg Dyke, TV-am's editor-in-chief, acknowledged that the lead was due to the station's popularity with schoolchildren, largely through the puppet character, Roland Rat.

Vauxhall men to block imports

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

Vauxhall car workers have launched a nationwide operation to stop the import of General Motors vehicles in an attempt to force the company to increase a pay offer.

The action comes after union leaders representing men at the Company's plants in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, and Bedford rejected a 5 per cent offer.

After Thursday's stoppage by 1,800 Transport and General Workers' Union members at Ellesmere which cost £450,000 in lost production, 2,400 Amalgamated Union of engineering Workers men walked out on strike yesterday after a meeting bringing production to a halt.

The two sets of workers both voted unanimously to boycott further pay talks with the company, and organize a block on imports of General Motors vehicles. They are demanding £25 across the board.

The action will affect half of Vauxhall's 15 per cent share of the market, and include the Nova, Carlton and the entire Opel range, which are built in Spain and West Germany.

The TGWU convenor at Ellesmere Port, Mr John Farrell, said: "Talks have already begun at executive level in the union to organize the blockade."

"Support is guaranteed and we will be hitting the company where they are most profitable. General Motors makes £1,000 more profit on a foreign-made Astra than one made in Britain."

"They have seriously underestimated the intelligence of the workforce at Ellesmere Port. For the past year they have been calling us supermen because we have achieved record efficiency and productivity levels while they make money hand over fist."

"We have kept pace with Germany and the massive investment there, but a 5 per cent offer is the last straw. An assembly line worker here gets £107 basic before stoppages. In Germany the equivalent is £180."

"The men are very very angry and if it means going down to the dock gates to stop the imports ourselves we are prepared to do that and go."

A company spokesman said the afternoon walkout at Ellesmere Port by 2,400 AUEW workers had cost £5 cars, but it expected things back to normal for today's overtime shift.

At Luton the workers went home for an extended holiday weekend after expressing disgust at the pay offer.

The company document told the workers that the emphasis in the offer was in maintaining job security.

"Times are hard on the Bedford side of the business and are likely to remain so for several years. This just cannot be eliminated from the total picture."

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'Open skies' policy faces challenge in court from British Airways

By David Nicholson-Lord

British Airways yesterday was given the right to challenge in court the Government's "open skies" policy, designed to open the state airline's services to private competition.

At a hearing in the High Court, BA was given permission to seek judicial review of the Civil Aviation Authority's decision earlier this month to allow British Midland Airways a share of the shuttle route between Heathrow and Belfast. The BMA service would undercut BA's shuttle by £3.50 per journey.

Full hearing of the case is not expected until early October, when BMA was planning to start its shuttle. The private airline, which has already joined forces with the CAA in court yesterday to prevent BA's application, said its service would go ahead as planned.

A BMA spokesman said there would be further recourse to the courts if the state airline dragged its feet. "We shall exercise our rights to make further applications to the courts if necessary to make them get a move on with their case," he added.

Yesterday's legal move by BA had attracted widespread attention because it by-passed the

established channel of appeal against the CAA's decision to Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Transport. He was reported to be embarrassed by the airline's apparent challenge to the Government's policy, only two years before it is due for privatization.

Mr John Perry, BA's director of public affairs, said after the hearing that the Department of Transport had been kept informed and denied that BA's move had embarrassed the Government. "All civil aviation throughout the world is covered by law and Government regulations. We are concerned with a point of law."

"If the airports are going to be moved in the middle of the game then we need to know what is happening."

Mr Justice Nolan granted the application after Mr Peter Scott, QC, claimed that the CAA had wrongly interpreted the Civil Aviation Act, 1982, which embodies the "open skies" Act of 1980.

Mr Scott said that the CAA had read section four and six of the Act as "imposing a bias in favour of competition." This was not the case.

"The Act is not saying that where practicable competition

should be introduced. This is a balancing exercise. It is of crucial importance when one is dealing with an air transport licence on route where another operator has already been licensed to have regard to the fact that they will have incurred very substantial expenses in providing facilities."

By bringing in a second operator "you are undoubtedly likely to cause economic problems for existing users", he said.

Even if BA appealed through the normal channels to Mr King, this would not clear up the point of law at issue and would result in continued uncertainty, Mr Scott added.

BA says the new BMA shuttle would take away more than one-third of its passengers, turn its shuttle network into loss and threaten the Belfast service with closure. BMA has already taken one-third of the state airline's customers on the Edinburgh and Glasgow shuttles while Dan-Air is proposing to operate a shuttle between London and Manchester.

The judge yesterday described the application as of "undoubted urgency" and importance, both commercially and to the travelling public.

Private telephone system for Kodak

By John Lawless

Work on the installation of Britain's first private national telephone network began this month when Kodak set up exchanges at six of its offices.

"Our four sales centres, at Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, have had the equipment installed," a spokesman for the photographic supplies company said yesterday. "As have the chemical division at Kirby, Liverpool, and our northern distribution centre at Manchester."

"Our main distribution centre at Hemel Hempstead (Hertfordshire) will join the new system next month, and a total of 13 sites will be linked by August 1984."

The Kodak system is the first to be commissioned since the Government ended British Telecom's monopoly over the telephone network.

Telephone Rentals - which is leasing the equipment, supplied by Plessey, under a 10-year contract at £500,000 a year - said yesterday that it has signed a comparable deal with National Westminster Bank.

That will allow link 13 of the banks' main offices throughout the country, but with the equipment being bought outright for £2.5m.

When Kodak's system is fully operational, 250,000 calls will be made each week between 5,000 telephone sets distributed throughout the country.

Only one extension is required for each desk, though, because the same equipment

will be used to link into British Telecom's national and international networks. Those are the only calls Kodak will pay for.

Kodak is making no guesses about how much it will save on telephone calls.

Its demand for information-switching capacity is growing so fast that it has specified a system that can send computer data from one centre to another using high-speed Megastream II lines rented from British Telecom to form private circuits, capable of carrying 64,000 bits per second.

However, Kodak, which receives 60 per cent of its orders over the telephone, says the most important benefit will be to customers. "In future," said the spokesman, "they will face minimal or no delays. The system will also assist in the processing of orders and stock control."

For employees, dialling is much easier. "In fact, the system is completely digital, with an integrated numbering scheme," Telephone Rentals said. "That means that all you have to do is press three numbers on a key-pad for a person's desk, and a fourth identifying their office location."

The Telephone Rentals system is in no way a competitor to Mercury, which is to challenge British Telecom as an independent provider of lines to important cities and towns.

Jobs offer ends yard dispute

Highland Fabricators management says production will resume on Monday at the oil platform yard at Nigg near Inverness. The company has offered jobs to 1,500 of the 2,000 men dismissed last week in an unofficial dispute over the withdrawal of free orange juice supplied during hot weather.

However, shop stewards at the yard say a mass picket will seek to turn back any workers accepting the management's offer of jobs.

The company initially planned to resume working tomorrow night but transport difficulties have forced the cancellation of the Sunday shift.

Management officials have been recruiting men at several job centres throughout the week. By Thursday, more than 400 had signed up and there was "considerable activity" at offices yesterday, a management spokesman claimed.

Only workers selected "on merit" have been offered their jobs back under new agreements that include the loss of free transport to and from work and shower facilities during working hours.

In return, the men have been promised a 4.5 per cent pay rise next year. The management says the new terms will save the company £1.4m a year.

However, officials of the unions involved, the engineers', the electricians' and the boiler-makers, have backed the men's insistence that all 2,000 workers must be rehired.

The dispute remains unofficial, but recommendations to back the men will go before union executive meetings next week.

Mr Rab Wilson, convenor at the yard, said: "There will be no production on Monday because the lads have made a decision and we will make sure anyone who turns up will not enter the yard. The only way production will re-start is when we all go back."

Management, who say the terms for a return are not negotiable, held inconclusive meetings with union officials on Wednesday. Further meetings are scheduled for Friday in London.

Highland Fabricators is one year behind with a platform order for Conoco's Hutton Field.

A building programme for accommodation for crews and their families of Type-42 destroyers to be based at Rosyth is expected to provide many jobs.

Triumph name to be sold

From Arthur Omasan, Birmingham

The name of Triumph is to be sold to the highest bidder, the liquidators of the failed Meriden motor cycle cooperative said yesterday.

Debts left by the cooperative, established eight years ago with the support of Mr Wedgwood Benn totalling £3.8m. It was estimated that it had received about £10m support from public funds.

A meeting of 200 creditors at the factory, which is between Birmingham and Coventry, heard that unsecured creditors owed about £1.7m would receive nothing. It was hoped that the 22-acre site would be sold for housing for about £1m, and another £200,000 was expected from the sale of machinery.

All cash realized would go to the National Westminster Bank, which had secured its losses. There was a deficit of £2.6m.

The police have been asked to investigate the fate of a loan made to the cooperative last November by West Midlands County Council which totalled £365,000. It covered the intended manufacture of 250 motor cycles, each costing £1,460, to fulfil orders from the United States.

Mr Alistair Jones, one of the liquidators, of Bank Marwood Mitchell, said the council would receive about £50,000, Triumph USA, the cooperative's sales subsidiary had only five motor cycles as assets. The prospects of obtaining any money from that source were remote.

The inland Revenue is claiming for unpaid income tax and national insurance contributions and Coventry Council is claiming £80,000 for unpaid rates.

The cooperative went into liquidation on August 6.



Safety home: Mrs Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, seen yesterday after being reunited with Mr Henry Meenan, her father, in Belfast.

Kidnap wife freed as tactics change against informers

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The republican paramilitaries attempt to force informers to retract evidence by kidnapping their relatives appears to be failing with the release yesterday of Mrs Elizabeth Kirkpatrick and speculation that the only remaining hostage will be freed this weekend.

Mrs Kirkpatrick reappeared in circumstances as bizarre as her abduction almost four months ago by the outlawed Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) and without Mr Henry Kirkpatrick, her husband, apparently agreeing to retract evidence implicating 18 people in terrorist crimes.

If Mr Patrick Gilmour, who was taken from his home in Londonderry nine months ago by the Provisional IRA in a bid to stop his son giving evidence, is released this weekend, it will coincide with a new direction in the republican movement's "anti-informer" campaign.

Tomorrow a meeting will be held in west Belfast to launch a movement which will involve mass street demonstrations similar to the anti-H block protests three years ago.

Committees will be formed of relatives of people charged on the evidence of informers and support will be sought from international jurists, the legal profession and political groups, who will lobby all sections of opinion against the use of informers.

But certain groups and people would have been embarrassed to support a campaign while people were being kidnapped.

Father Denis Paul, who played an important role in securing Mrs Kirkpatrick's release, said: "I am very opposed to supergrass, who are a further perversion of a rather bad legal system, but people can say little about it when people are being kidnapped. I hope Mr Gilmour will be released this weekend."

The release of Mrs Kirkpatrick, aged 27, ended a 105-day ordeal for her family, and came eight days after her husband's stepfather and half sister, who were also kidnapped and threatened with execution by INLA, were freed when Irish

police raided a house in Co Donegal.

But the details of her abduction, where she was held and how she came to be found by Father Paul, who drove her home, are not known. Nor is the reason why the terrorists decided to release her unharmed having threatened to kill her.

It is thought, however, that there were internal divisions within INLA over her. Once it became apparent that nothing would make Mr Kirkpatrick, who is serving five life sentences for murder, retract his statements, INLA decided to cut its losses, especially as the cost in manpower and money of holding someone is high.

The RUC interviewed Mrs Kirkpatrick, whose long blonde hair was shown by her captors to make her less easily recognizable, about her abduction, although she herself had made no complaint to the police.

Mrs Kirkpatrick said of the captors, who she said had always treated her well during days when all she read was love stories: "I would not identify them, I would be too scared for my life."

Mrs Kirkpatrick claimed that she had no idea where she had been held or taken.

She had never made conversation with her captors and although she was given everything she asked for she lost half a stone during her captivity.

When her husband's stepfather and half sister were freed she became really frightened. "I thought I would be shot. I think they released me because it seemed to them that Harry was going to do nothing. He did not give a damn about me so it was not going to hurt them to release me."

She does not think her husband will retract his evidence. With a nun standing near by, Mrs Kirkpatrick, one of 10 children and from a strongly Roman Catholic family, said: "I will file for divorce if he does not retract. If he does I will try to make a go of it but he has betrayed me."

Heffer warning on 'mole' witch-hunt

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Eric Heffer, the hard-left candidate for Labour's leadership, yesterday warned party members against the wave of attacks on Trotskyist "moles" in the Labour Party.

He said in a letter to party members that calls for witch-hunts against "so-called Reds" in industry and in the Labour Party smacked of McCarthyism.

"Certainly, we in Britain have not got to that stage yet," he said, "but the danger signs are there and this is the time for all true democrats to say enough is enough, before it is too late and the atmosphere develops into one of hysteria."

Mr Heffer pointed to the latest episode, in which some newspapers had attempted to undermine the party with reports of 1,000 "moles" infiltrating the Labour ranks.

He said: "As a socialist all my adult life, over the years I have read in certain newspapers that the Labour Party was being infiltrated, that the constituency Labour parties were communist-dominated, or Trotskyist-influenced, and that a takeover was about to take place."

"I warn party members that the statements being made

today about moles are designed to damage the party and stop us from winning power at the next election.

"They are designed to frighten the people by painting a picture that bears no relation to the real situation."

But Mr Heffer added: "It is a long tradition that groups within the wider movement argue their case. Sometimes their arguments win the majority support, usually they do not."

He said that the party must strongly resist any attempt to undermine the tradition of argument within the party.

Labour Herald, the weekly newspaper which numbers Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, as one of its editors, attacked Mr Michael Meacher, the hard-left candidate for the party deputy leadership, for suggesting that the expulsion of Militant Tendency leaders might be allowed to stand.

The paper said in yesterday's editorial: "The left cannot afford to duck the issue. It must campaign for the reinstatement of the expelled members of Militant. So should Michael Meacher."

Hides found in hunt for rapist

Police searching woodlands in south London for a double rapist have unearthed an underground hideout which was probably used by the wanted man.

Det Supt Geoffrey Cooper, who is leading the hunt, said that the 14ft chamber was built with "military-style precision". It contained a single mattress, food, drink and even an air freshener. It was found when 150 officers searched the wood at Upper Belvedere, Bexley, the scene of two rapes in recent weeks.

A woman aged 33, was raped in front of her son, aged three, in broad daylight in the woods a week ago and a girl, aged 16, was raped 100 yards from the spot last month.

Officers from the Special Patrol Group, mounted police and dog handlers joined the search which unearthed the tunnel, and a second, smaller hideout.

Police Constable Clifford Thomas discovered the tunnel when he heard a metallic noise while looking beneath a holly tree.

He brushed aside leaves and branches and found a piece of rusted corrugated iron which concealed a black door, bearing the number 122 and opening into the tunnel. The hideout was about 3ft deep and just long enough for the single mattress. It was littered with empty beer cans and plastic carrier bags. Clothes found near by are being analysed by forensic scientists.

Det Supt Cooper said that the hideout could only have been constructed by someone with a military training. The hideout was of "SAS standard". "We would never have found the hides but for the blanket search of the woods," Mr Cooper said.

The man is described as 3ft 8in tall, aged about 25, with short ginger hair. He was wearing blue jeans and white shoes at the time of the second attack, and had an earring in his right ear.

Overseas selling prices: Austria £28, Belgium £27, Canada £28, France £28, Germany £28, Greece £28, Italy £28, Japan £28, Netherlands £28, Portugal £28, Spain £28, Sweden £28, Switzerland £28, USA £28, UK £28.

Journalists in holiday dispute return to work

By Ronald Faux

Three hundred journalists in Manchester who were dismissed by Express Newspapers on Wednesday in a dispute over Christmas working were back at work yesterday after they accepted an agreement negotiated by officials of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) and the management in London.

The dispute, which one journalist described as the last straw in increasingly bad relations between management and some editorial staff, on the Daily Star was over the journalists' traditional right to have Christmas Eve and Christmas Day off. The management has sought to buy out that right as a component of a 6.5 per cent pay increase. Part of the deal, amounting to 5 per cent, had been accepted by the company's journalists in London and Manchester.

Chinese held over 'protection money'

Detectors at Limerick in the Irish Republic were yesterday questioning 12 Chinese men arrested in armed police raids on a flat and a pool room in the city.

The raids followed the arrival in Limerick of a group of 10 London-based Chinese which led to police fears of violence involving the local Chinese community.

Some of those held by a raiding party of up to 20 Irish police officers were armed with iron bars, knives, pickaxes and clubs, a police source said.

Police are understood to have moved in on the Chinese in an effort to prevent clashes centring on a protection racket believed to be operating in Limerick.

Although they were apparently well armed, the Chinese offered no resistance to police and no one was hurt.

Doctors given warning on missing wife

By Rosemary Smith

Dr Robert Jones and the police detective who is leading the hunt to find his wife, Mrs Diane Jones, have appealed to the medical profession to contact the police if she seeks treatment.

Any doctor who responds to the appeal could be disciplined by the British Medical Association. A spokesman said last night: "The BMA does not need to warn doctors not to inform the police. Our standing ethical guidelines are that in general we advise doctors only to break confidence if they have an overriding duty to society, for example in the Yorkshire tipper case."

"Where a person has simply left home and doctors are told to look out for them it is not the doctor's job to inform the police. Doctors may try and persuade the person to make contact, but people must feel that if they need medical

treatment they can get help in confidence."

Dr Jones, who is going to Canada on a three-week holiday this weekend, made his appeal through the medical journal Doctor.

In his first appeal since his pregnant wife vanished five weeks ago, Dr Jones, aged 40, said: "Doctors should contact the police if they know something. I believe my wife does not want to be found. But she may have approached a GP somewhere, though it is more likely she will want tranquillity than anti-natal care."

Det Supt Michael Ainsley, who is leading the search for Mrs Jones, also appealed in the journal for doctors to contact him if Mrs Jones approached them for treatment.

Mrs Jones disappeared on July 23 after returning home with her husband from a public house in Coggeshall, Essex.

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مكتبة الامم المتحدة

Holiday trading stamps may step up garage price war

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Trading stamps are to return to garage forecourts, at a time when the big oil companies are reviewing their marketing and pricing policy.

Anglo Petroleum, which has 400 filling stations in Wales and the West Country, are to give Holiday Stamps with petrol. The stamps can be redeemed only against package holidays offered by travel agents and companies that belong to the Association of British Travel Agents. The stamps can be used for British-based and foreign holidays and the average family motorist should be able to collect enough stamps to obtain a 58 discount on a package holiday within 10 to 15 weeks.

Motorists will receive the stamps at between 1 and 3 per cent of the price of the goods they buy, depending on the contract price agreed between the petrol company and Holiday Stamps.

However, if other petrol chains adopt stamps, though

this has been ruled out at the moment by the big oil companies, a return to double-stamp offer is possible.

At the peak of the stamp wars in the mid-1970s, Green Shield Stamps were being offered by some petrol stations at 32-fold, with the result that larger value stamps had to be introduced.

Anglo Petroleum's 200 filling stations in East Anglia and the Midlands are not involved in the scheme. Mr Clive Collis, managing director of Anglo Petroleum, said yesterday: "People buying petrol in the South-west and Wales will now have the added bonus of being able to collect stamps towards their next holidays."

The four major oil companies, Shell, Esso, BP and Mobil, are resisting a price-cutting campaign after the recent increase in prices to industrial users as they regard it as financially impossible.

Marketing executives are examining ways of increasing

brand loyalty without resorting to price cuts and avoiding a full-scale return to giveaway offers.

A BP spokesman said: "The one certain thing that has emerged in recent months is that the motorist does not want to return to the wholesale special offer period of the 1970s. Price stability is important and brand loyalty has to be built up in other ways."

The trading stamps which are to be offered in Wales and the West Country will shortly spread to other retail outlets as well as bingo halls, cinemas, sports centres, public houses and off-licences if marketing plans are met, according to Mr David Price, chairman of Holiday Stamps Limited.

By restricting the redemption on stamps to high street travel agents and mail-order bookings, Holiday Stamps, which is based in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, has avoided the high cost of warehousing and shop premises that resulted in the demise of Green Shield Stamps

Comedian and wife clash over children

A courtroom battle erupted yesterday between the Scottish comedian, Billy Connolly, and his estranged wife Iris over the custody of their two children.

Allegations were made by lawyers for each side at the court of session in Edinburgh where Mrs Connolly, 36, applied for interim custody of their son Jamie, aged 13 and their daughter Cara, aged nine.

The comedian's lawyer accused Mrs Connolly of being unfit to look after the children because of her heavy drinking, her associations with other men and the "distressing state" of her house.

In turn, her agent claimed that Mr Connolly had spent three weeks in a monastery recovering from a drink problem last year.

Lord Robertson said that although the allegations made in court were serious, none of them had been put before the court in the divorce action. He made no order, and gave each side seven days to put their allegations in writing.

In the meantime the children will remain in London with their father who lives with the entertainer, Miss Pamela Stephenson.

Mr Connolly was not represented in court at the start of the case, and Lord Robertson said that he would grant the motion for interim custody. Seconds later Mr Charles Boag-Thomson, QC, appeared to oppose the move and the case went ahead.

Mr Boag-Thomson alleged that Mr Connolly was a wholly unsuitable person to have custody. "The position is that over a period of years this woman has taken to drinking to excess, being in a state of intoxication on numerous occasions during the day to an extent whereby the children have not been properly looked

after. The clothing was not properly washed."

He alleged that both children had played truant and that conditions at Mrs Connolly's home in Brymen, Stirlingshire, had become "deplorable, with four dogs and three cats running about."

Their son's schooling had fallen so far behind he needed extra tuition for four hours a day. Both children had been put down for schools in London.

On one occasion the girl had found her mother unconscious on the floor and Mrs Connolly ended up in hospital.

Mr Boag-Thomson said: "It cannot be in the best interests of the children to return to a mother who is incapable of looking after them by reason of being regularly intoxicated. She is associating with not one but two men, one of whom is regarded as a local 'hard man' who engages in drinking sessions."

Mr Mitchell said that there had been no dispute over access until the children went to London for a two-week holiday. Lord Robertson continued the case for two weeks to allow the new allegations to be lodged in court and defences to be prepared, and said it was impossible for the court to make an immediate decision.

He said his written instructions to the nurses said 300mg of the drug should be administered every eight hours instead of every 24, as they should have done.

It was a slip of the pen. That was a mistake. When I wrote that note, I had been on duty for 18 hours," Dr Mycock said.

Dr Stephen Corder, a Home Office pathologist, said the child died from bacterial meningitis and an overdose of the antibiotic.

Mrs Jones, a qualified nurse, of Skye Close, Reading, said: "I realized that Gemma was very ill but I was told that after she had been on the anti-biotics for a few days she would probably recover."

The inquest jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Boy hangs while trying to scare sister

While apparently attempting to "play dead" Brian Thornton, aged 15, accidentally hanged himself at his home in Mary Duncher Close, south London, Southwark. Coroner's court heard yesterday.

His sister, Sharon Thornton, aged 14, was too distressed to appear in court, described in a statement how her brother, described as a "happy boy" who had ambitions to go to art school used to tie a scarf around his neck and put a blob of red ink at the corner of his mouth.

On August 10, she discovered her brother hanging from his bedroom door suspended on a dog's lead 3in above the ground.

He added that the treatment, which should be effective within two years, was widely used in psychiatry for compulsive problems.

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£3m a year hunt for hot rocks

Hot rocks beneath Devon and Cornwall contain the equivalent of the coal resource of the United Kingdom. Researching the ways of extracting that geothermal energy has been in progress for eight years, under a research programme costing about £3m a year.

A progress report on the project was given by Dr Anthony Betchelor, of the Camborne School of Mines geothermal energy project. He said: "The idea was simple. Anywhere on Earth the temperatures increased as greater depths were reached below the surface."

"If a process of producing fractures in deep-lying hot rock could be produced, then the heat could be extracted by forcing water through the cracks."

To be economic, the mined heat must be sold at a high enough rate and priced to recover the drilling investment profitably.

The key was to drill two or more inter-linking access wells for circulating the water from one bore hole to the other.

Leftist talk on parrots

Nine out of ten parrots are left footed in the same way that most people were right handed. Professor Richard Andrew, of Sussex University, told the association.

In another report reviewing knowledge about the brain and behaviour, Dr Peter Slater, lecturer in animal behaviour at Sussex University, said that all song birds were now known to learn their repertoire by copying others but some were more accurate in their learning than others.

The complexity of vocal communication in birds was exceeded only by that in humans. The male of some species had a vocabulary of hundreds or even thousands of different phrases. The origin of many warblers, which migrated between western Europe and Africa, could be traced by their song patterns.

Slow monitoring blamed for drug disasters

The slowness of the Government's system of monitoring harmful new drugs was to blame for some medical disasters, rather than pharmaceutical industry mistakes, Professor George Teeling-Smith told the British Association yesterday.

He was describing a new approach for the monitoring of the adverse side-effects of drugs to reduce the risks of medical catastrophes.

The project will soon allow 2,500 doctors to use microcomputers in their surgeries to report immediately over the Prestel computer network adverse reactions to patients.

Professor Teeling-Smith, of Surrey University, and Director of the Office of Health Economics, an organization supported by the drug industry, reviewed eight large disasters in Britain involving pharmaceutical products between 1939 and 1983.

He said that the only episode anything near the scale of fatality of road deaths, for example, when asthma aerosols killed 3,500 people in the 1960s.

When set against the figure of 250,000 child lives saved in Britain specifically by the use of modern medicines, the "calamities" fell into perspective, he said. Nevertheless, it was important to exploit the latest technology to minimize the risks.

Government regulations could not provide all the answers. Historically, governments had reacted to calamities rather than anticipated them. Government intervention could not guarantee the safety of the public or the absolute of the manufacturer from responsibility.

With about twenty new pharmaceutical compounds marketed each year it would mean monitoring about two million patients a year if a risk of an adverse effect of one in 10,000 was to be detected. The cost would be astronomical. One calculation was that it would cost £55m for each life saved. Computer-based reporting could handle large numbers of patients to reveal significant dangers as early as possible.

PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCT DISASTERS IN REVIEW

Year	Preparation	Country	Deaths	Permanent Injuries
1939	Sulphanilamide	USA	107	0
1950s	Stallion	France	102	100+
1965	Cutter Polio Vaccine	USA	5	54
1961	Thalidomide	UK	0	450
1960s	Asthma aerosols	UK	3500	0
1970s	Tractolol	UK	20	1200
1970s	Cloquinal	Japan	200	5000
1982	Bencoprofen	UK	61	0

Reports by Pearce Wright and Clive Cookson

In principle, there was no way that a government could anticipate the next calamity; it was much more likely the scientists in industry might be able to predict possible hazards with their own new compounds, although past experience had shown that even that was not always possible.

The Government's measures to monitor adverse reaction, using the system of "yellow cards" filled in by doctors to record such reactions, was too slow for monitoring purposes.

Clinical trials, even when they involved thousands of patients, could not detect adverse effects which might happen with a probability of one in ten thousand or less, he said.

Nor would clinical trials necessarily point to adverse effects which happened only within a small sub-group of the population: he cited as typical sub-groups those affected by thalidomide and benzocaine (the drug known by the brand name Opan which was banned last year).

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One calculation was that it would cost £55m for each life saved. Computer-based reporting could handle large numbers of patients to reveal significant dangers as early as possible.



Kid's stuff: A girl programmes a computerized toy at the popular Micro-Computer Workshop at the British Association conference, which ended yesterday. (Photograph: David Hodge).

Helping plants to tap nitrogen

One of the greatest achievements of genetic engineering would be to give crop plants such as wheat the ability to fix their own nitrogen from the air.

That would liberate farmers from the expensive, time consuming and environmentally damaging business of spreading nitrogen fertilizer.

Professor John Postgate, of Sussex University, told the agriculture section that the first step had been taken in the laboratory.

Learning from swans in top gear

What is the largest sized bird that might fly? The answer, according to Professor Michael French, Professor of Engineering at Lancaster University, is a four-winged bird, a large pair of wings providing lift and a small pair providing thrust.

Such a design should support a flying creature of up to 100 kilograms. Professor French used the example not to predict a genetically engineered monster but to show young engineers that good ways of design for one purpose were often inadequate for another.

His design avoids the strain of flapping too big a wing which limits the weight of real birds. "Large birds are in too high a gear" he said. "A swan flying is like a cyclist trying to climb a hill in top gear. Watch a swan take off, the similarity is striking."

He suggested nature's design efficiency held lessons for the engineer. Nevertheless, living organisms were not strictly functional.

Flowers were strictly practical devices dedicated in every detail to the struggle for

Aid for developing countries defended

"If I were a natural scientist one of the problems I would like to investigate is why a wasp will climb into a jam jar when several of its fellows are already there, lying dead". Professor Robert Cassen, of the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University, said.

"Some aspects of human behaviour display the same properties."

He was describing the activities which were intended to be steps forward in cooperation between the industrial and developing worlds, and in particular the meetings of the past two years at the Giscard summit, two annual meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, the Western Economic Summits of Versailles and Williamsburg, and most recently the United Nations conference on trade and development held in Belgrade.

His theme was North and South: economic links and their implications. He launched into a spirited defence of aid against increasingly vocal critics such as Professor Peter Bauer, of the London School of Economics, who say that aid does not work.

"He bases his views, as far as I can judge, on more or less anecdotal evidence of the occasional failed aid project, or on a priori theorizing which has little basis in reality", Professor Cassen said of Professor Bauer, whose views were outlined in an article in *The Times* on April 11.

He said: "Those who still have hopes left, watch their hopes disappear like wasps into the jam jar, for each of these occasions, and many smaller ones on more limited issues, have had the same result: virtually nothing."

Professor Cassen said that the

developing countries were suffering the worst setback to their prospects since the 1950s.

They developed rapidly in the 1950s; less so in the 1970s, but were still making progress. Now, at the start of the 1980s, their growth had fallen drastically.

He added that the record of North-North cooperation was not wholly empty. But the North was negative and had found a number of alibis for its poor performance in offering aid. The alibis most commonly offered were:

- The recovery which had started in the world economy would take care of the developing countries' problems.
- Aid did not work, or was even counter-productive.
- Development should be left to the private sector.
- The industrial countries could not afford to do any more than they were doing already; they had to cut back their own domestic public expenditure.

● The developing countries had caused most of their own problems by the inadequacies of their domestic economic management; they had to "get their act together".

Why fire alarms are ignored

Most people have learnt to associate fire alarms with tests, drills or faults in the system. Thus, they often ignore an alarm bell or siren when the building needs to be evacuated because of a real fire, Mr David Tong, of the University of Surrey, told the psychology section.

The Fire Research Unit at Surrey is working on a new type of "informative fire warning system".

Animal test ban 'disastrous'

A total ban on animal experiments would be disastrous for medical research, Dr John Badcock, a doctor at the Department of Health and Social Security, told the association.

Using animals to test cosmetics was indefensible, he added, but there was an important difference between that and using them to combat life-threatening diseases.

Defending the sea lanes

Japan says Russian military build-up poses threat to Asia

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

Japan must improve its defence and cooperate more closely with the West to counter a Soviet military build-up in Asia, according to a defence White Paper endorsed by the Cabinet yesterday.

A private report on Japanese security, also issued this week in Tokyo, however, warns that it will be difficult to implement Japan's 1983-87 defence build-up plans for lack of adequate spending.

The White Paper, the first to be published since the Government of Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the Prime Minister, was named, emphasizes Japan's growing role and status in the international community, a favourite theme of Mr Nakasone.

"Japan should work in far closer cooperation politically and economically with other Western nations", it says, adding that the East-West confrontation, based on US and Soviet military power, is becoming global in scope.

Despite efforts by the West to maintain a credible defence, if the trend of the Soviet Union's "unrelenting military build-up" continues, the military balance is likely to favour the Eastern block, the paper warns.

For the first time in a White Paper, the defence Agency mentioned defending Japanese sea lanes. It said that the nation's maritime defence is being built up with the goal of

providing protection for sea lanes of communication within a radius of several hundred miles and, in the case of an armed attack on Japan, protecting sea routes for about 1,000 nautical miles.

The Japanese Government and the United States have begun a study of the sea lanes problem. Private experts, however, say that it will take at least a decade for Japan to build up its forces to the level at which a credible defence could be mounted.

The 1983 edition of *Asian Security*, published by a research institute in Tokyo, points to a number of problems involved in the sea lane study, including differing views held by the United States and Japan, and in achieving other defence targets.

Defence has been given priority in the national budget in recent years, but spending has been too low to achieve the targets set out under the mid-term build-up plan, ending in 1987, the study says.

Even if Japan were to achieve the targets set out under current plans, the country would still not be able to assume the responsibilities as an ally which the United States now seems to advocate. The current build-up is designed strictly for the defence of Japan and not for any wider purposes.

Asian Security comments that there is no sign for a more far-reaching plan.

Star-gazing sailor who travels hopefully

From a Correspondent Hobart, Tasmania

While the eyes of the yachting world are on the America's Cup extravaganza, a remarkable sea voyage is under way on the other side of the world.

A retired college professor from New Jersey docked in the quiet port of Hobart last week at the halfway point of the first circumnavigation of the globe without navigational instruments.

Professor Marvin Creamer, aged 67, left Cape May, on New Jersey's southern coast, on December 21 on a 16-month voyage in which he expects to "eyeball" his way with no compass to find direction, no sextant to determine latitude and no timepiece.

His route will take him via the three capes: the Cape of Good Hope, Tasmania's South-West Cape, and the notorious Cape Horn. His craft is a 35ft steel sloop, the *Globe Star*.

It is a feat which may well surpass the efforts of modern seafarers such as Sir Francis Chichester and Chay Blythe, for while they were alone - Professor Creamer has two crew - they were able, through substantial sponsorship, to use the best equipment available.

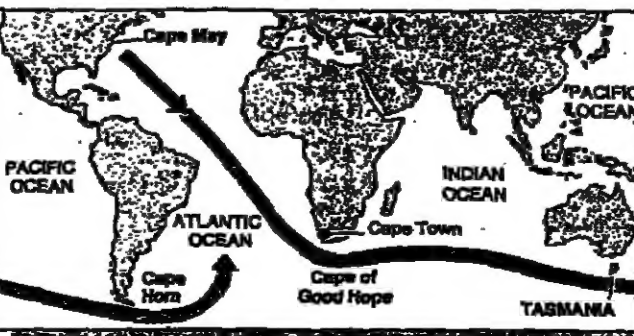
Professor Creamer has no lucrative contracts and the venture is financed mostly by his own life savings.

"I am out to prove that there is information in the sea and the sky which can be used for fairly accurate navigation", he explained. "It's a tip of the hat to the ancients."

"I don't pretend that they circumnavigated the globe - that would be balderdash - but



Time-and-motion: Professor Creamer has only an hourglass to change watch by.



I would like to open scholars' eyes to what may be available", he said.

The *Globe Star* first sighted the Tasmanian coast spot-on at South-West Cape after a 76-day, 6,600-mile haul from Cape Town.

"We expected to be within 450 nautical miles, or about 1° of latitude, but frankly I don't think we could have done better with instruments", he said.

Professor Creamer's method, which has taken him on three transatlantic crossings,

involves numerous observations with the naked eye, such as star sightings, wave patterns, swell direction, the position of the sun and even the colour of the sea, caused by a higher plankton population as they hit a continental shelf.

The key is to establish the correct latitude then to sail parallel to the equator, in this case due east.

Each star in the heavens can be related, through a set of tables known as the declination tables, to a position of latitude when that star passes the meridian, or its highest point in the sky.

By placing his yacht directly beneath the appropriate star at the right time, Professor Creamer has no need for a sextant.

Exiled writer stripped of citizenship

MOSCOW (NYT) - Georgi Vladimov, the dissident writer who left under pressure for the West last spring, has been stripped of his citizenship by the Soviet Government for systematically engaging in activities hostile to the state.

The decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet was dated July 1, a month after Mr Vladimov and his wife, Natalya Kuznetsova, and her mother left the Soviet Union for West Germany.

Vatican bankers' assets to be seized

From John Earle Rome

A Milan magistrate investigating the collapse last year of the late Roberto Calvi's Banco Ambrosiano is reported to have ordered the sequestration of the assets in Italy of two senior officials of the Vatican bank, the Istituto per le Opere di Religione (IOR). Signor Luigi Menzini, the chief executive, and Signor Pellegrino de Serebelli, the chief accountant, are both Italian citizens.

In a debate in Parliament last October the Treasury Minister of the day, Senator Nino Andreatta, said the IOR owed Banco Ambrosiano \$1,287m (£858m).

No order has been made against Mr Paul Marcinkus, the controversial American archbishop whom the Pope has retained as chairman of the bank, as it is understood to have no assets in Italy.

Last summer the Milan public prosecutor tried to serve formal notices on the three IOR officials that they were under investigation in connection with the Ambrosiano collapse - Italy's biggest banking failure - but the Vatican refused to accept the notices.

Milan court sources said Signor Menzini and Signor de Serebelli were among a group of people whose assets were

recently ordered to be seized, though their names have not been officially released.

The magistrate's decision was taken before the seizure ordered earlier this week of a controlling 50.2 per cent shareholding in the Rizzoli-Corriere della Sera publishing group in the hands of Signor Angelo Rizzoli and the former managing director, Signor Bruno Tassan Din.

There was no comment in the Vatican where, after months of delay, the report is awaited from an Italian-Vatican commission charged with ascertaining the facts of the IOR's liability towards Banco Ambrosiano.

Unemployment bends the charts

Sick Germans grit teeth and work on

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Unemployment is good for your health. Or rather, the fear of unemployment forces many people who feel unwell to stay at work instead of registering as sick.

This conclusion has been drawn in West Germany from the sudden and drastic fall in the past 15 months of the percentage of people applying to state health insurance bureaux. The fall coincides with a sharp rise in unemployment, which now stands at over 2,500,000.

For years, it seemed Germans were becoming ever more susceptible to disease. The numbers absent from work on grounds of ill-health rose steadily. Whereas in 1956 there were 545 applications a year for medical certificates from the state insurance bureaux, for every 1,000 people registered, by 1980 the figure had risen to 1,007.

That means that on average each worker went sick at least once a year.

Analysts blamed stress, loss of motivation at work, fear of change, monotony, lack of challenge and frustration. Women were especially blamed for taking more sickness leave than justified by health. They, together with foreign workers and the unskilled, were found to fall ill most often.

But the past three years have seen a reversal of this trend. Whereas in 1980 6.03 per cent of the population registered sick, in 1981 this had fallen to 5.53 per cent, and by last year it was only 4.48 per cent.

On television, a doctor said many workers were frightened that if they stayed at home there would not be a job for them when they returned. They needed therefore to "grit their teeth and bear it," and doctors were being asked to prescribe stronger and more expensive medicines so that people could continue working when they should be in bed.

Green light for donor egg process

Melbourne (Reuters) - Australia's leading test-tube baby team has been given approval by an ethics committee to go ahead with a new process involving the transfer of eggs between women.

The work, by Melbourne's Monash University-Queen Victoria Hospital in-vitro team, was stopped last October while a committee studied legal, social and health aspects.

The technique involves extracting an egg from a donor which is then placed in a test tube, where it is fertilized by the sperm of the husband of the infertile woman. The fertilized egg is then replaced in the woman.

The nine-member committee, set up by the state government of Victoria, said the use of donor eggs should be permitted and laid down guidelines for all aspects of producing test-tube babies.

Routine methods involve an egg, taken from a woman who cannot conceive, being fertilized by her husband's sperm in a test tube before being replaced. Donor sperm is also used in the case of infertile husbands.

China offers assistance to Macao

Peking (Reuters) - The governor of China's Guangdong province has promised to support all projects that will help Macao's stability and prosperity, the New China news agency reported yesterday.

The agency said Governor Liang Lingguang concluded a three-day visit to the Portuguese-run enclave on Thursday. Rear-Admiral Vasco da Almeida e Costa, Macao's Governor, told him it would be difficult for Macao to fulfil its development plans without China's support.

Lisbon recognized China's sovereignty over Macao in 1976 and Peking agreed that Portugal should continue to run it. China has left Macao intact and poured money into development projects.

The most recent is a plan to reclaim 1.2m square yards of land in Macao's outer harbour. About 95 per cent of the hundreds of millions of pounds for this scheme will come from the Chinese special economic zone of Zhuhai.

Macao is just east across the Pearl River estuary from Hong Kong, where markets are sensitive to any hints of Chinese intentions when Britain's lease on most of the territory expires in 1997.

Congress study shows that Reagan cuts have hit poor hardest

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The brunt of President Reagan's cuts in welfare and other domestic spending will be borne by families earning less than \$10,000 (\$6,600 a year), an income that is typical in the big-city ghettos.

The findings from the most intensive study carried out by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) on the subject. Some of the statistics are startling. For example, 70 per cent of the main domestic benefit programmes will affect households with a total income of \$20,000 and less.

In the 1985 fiscal year the loss to these families will average \$415, whereas higher-income families will lose only \$175. The losses are across the board of benefit programmes - retirement and disability payments, unemployment pay, housing, child nutrition support, health care, education, social services and job training.

The findings are actually embarrassing the Administration.

Martin Luther King rally

Squabbles threaten civil rights dream

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

Scores of thousands are expected to descend on Washington today for the twentieth anniversary of Martin Luther King's historic "I have a dream" rally. Saturday, in atmosphere and content it will be a different occasion from the one in 1963, when the civil rights movement marched under a single, united banner.

Several groups, particularly those pursuing Jewish interests, will be absent - a reflection of how the civil rights movement has fragmented into an array of sectional and often opposing interests.

For weeks the organizers have been agonizing over the wording of a paper on foreign policy. The fact that there is a foreign policy paper at all reflects the different character of the rally from 1963, when the issues were simple, few and indigenous: jobs and civil rights.

The final wording of the paper has alienated many Jewish groups, who see it as anti-Israel. It has also served to put a formal stamp on the new character of civil rights activism in America, a movement with many faces, most of them looking beyond the traditional issues that brought 250,000 protesters to Washington 20 years ago.

The National Urban League, the biggest black welfare organization in America, will not officially march on Saturday. "We believe the focus on a broad range of issues is likely to limit the impact (of the march)," it said. "We cannot justify the strain on our limited



Martin Luther King: Followers divided

Thais score successes in war on drug rings

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Thailand, intensifying its war against narcotics, is seizing twice as much heroin this year as it did in 1982, according to Major-General Chavalit Yodmanee, Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board.

He said 600 kilograms (1,323 lb) of heroin was confiscated in the first seven months of this year. This equaled the amount seized during the whole of last year. About 520 people were being arrested every week in 500 separate drug-related cases.

The seizure of 600 kilograms of heroin is significant because it represents nearly 20 per cent of Thailand's opium crop which amounted to 35 tons at the last harvest. Ten tons of opium are required to make one ton of heroin.

The bulk of the Golden Triangle opium is grown in Burma with the third side of the triangle, Laos, providing about 70 tons a year.

Thailand's anti-narcotics campaign shifted into top gear about 20 months ago. Its success may be explained by a remark by Mr Maurice Tanner, the senior American narcotics officer in Thailand: "I am happy," he said, "when I pick up my paper and see they have arrested a police officer or Army man with narcotics. That hardly happens until recently. Now they are going after them."

Last month they arrested a Singaporean alleged to be a key figure in a drugs ring stretching from South-east Asia to Europe and Australia.

Americans return to the gas guzzler

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Out of the shadows of shame the big American car is emerging again into the sunlight of popular approval.

After being put behind the wheels of smaller cars by the 1970s oil crisis and the skill of foreign car makers, Americans are returning in their thousands to their true love: the big, fat, plush, squishy gas-guzzler, the traditional and ever present prop on the American stage.

Suddenly there are smiles again in Detroit, the automobile capital. Manufacturers cannot produce limousines fast enough to meet demand. Car sales are the best for four years, and sales of large cars in July were up by a third compared with the same month last year. Ford, Chrysler and General Motors are expected to make \$3.3 billion net profit this year, roughly what they lost in 1980-1982.

With optimism running high, it cannot be long before Motown businessmen revive the grace once intended before the businessmen's lunch a few years ago: "Almighty God, we thank thee for the wheel, for the person who made it into a vehicle, for those who produce it, and bless us who use it. Amen."

The immediate cause of the resurgence of the big car is the fall in the cost of petrol, to about 92p a gallon, and the fact that better engine design enables even the largest roadliners to consume less than they used to. More Americans feel that they can return to large cars without feeling that the conservationists are frowning on them.

Americans have always liked owning big cars, symbols of the full and abundant life. From the dawn of the motor age the broad-shouldered car with a billiard-table bonnet and a howling-ally boot seemed and indisputable part of the American scene and dream, a keystone of culture, social intercourse and the American rites of courtship.

The oil crisis made Americans reconsider their relationship with cars, one of the momentous readjustments of their history. On economists' orders, a people raised on big steaks and big cars found themselves having to buy smaller cars. Suddenly it seemed selfish and even unpatriotic to have a big car. And when people found that smaller American cars were not available or not good enough, foreign cars were there to meet the need.

Mr Ralph Nader, the American consumer activist, had already accused car manufacturers of putting profits and style before safety and quality, and safety legislation and foreign competition has led to a reform of ideas in the motor industry. For a long time American cars have not had a good reputation in respect of quality, and Detroit today is putting an emphasis on better design, engineering and finish.

There is still a question-mark over some American cars, however. The Government is suing General Motors to make them recall 1.1m cars with suspected brake defects. The Government alleges that the defects led to 15 deaths and that GM tried to cover up the faults.



Motown's delight: The big, plush roadliner is fashionable again.

mark over some American cars, however. The Government is suing General Motors to make them recall 1.1m cars with suspected brake defects. The Government alleges that the defects led to 15 deaths and that GM tried to cover up the faults.

The renewal of the American love affair with the big car is also, ironically, getting the manufacturers into trouble with the Government.

Under fuel economy regulations, petrol consumption must average 26 miles per gallon. Makers are liable to a penalty of \$3.30 for each one-tenth of a mile per gallon by which they fail to meet the standard, multiplied by the number of cars they sell in a year. On this basis General Motors could face a fine of about \$266m this year, and Ford about \$106m.

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Reagan trip to Manila opposed by Kennedy

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Senator Edward Kennedy has urged President Reagan to cancel his visit to the Philippines until the perpetrators of the murder of the Filipino opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, have been brought to justice.

The Massachusetts Democrat in a letter to the President, also said the United States should delay action on all aid and support to the Philippines until the government of President Marcos has "conducted a full, satisfactory and impartial investigation of the Aquino assassination and reported its findings to the United States Government."

He will urge other members of Congress to support his position when it reconvenes. President Reagan is due to visit Manila as part of an Asian tour in November. The White House has repeatedly emphasized that the Aquino assassination at Manila airport last Sunday has not changed President Reagan's plans.

The Reagan Administration has condemned the assassination and called for a thorough and objective investigation.

MANILA: Thousands of students rallied at two universities in protest against the Aquino assassination while a commission created to investigate the killing held its first working meeting (AP reports).

Major General Prospero Olivas, chief of the Manila Metropolitan Police, told a news conference that investigators had encountered only "blind leads" in trying to identify the alleged assassin who was killed by security officers.

He added that among many officers confined to quarters during the inquiry was Brigadier General Luther Custodio, head of airport security.

'I saw warders beat three prisoners to death'

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Warders in charge of a working party of black convicts beat three of them to death as they lay slumped over wheelbarrows crying for mercy in blazing heat, a court has been told.

Eight warders, four whites and four blacks, have pleaded not guilty to three charges of murder and 24 of assault with intent to do bodily harm at their trial at Witbank, in the eastern Transvaal.

Mr Andries Mtembu, serving five years for theft, said the temperature was about 35°C (95°F) when a party of 47 prisoners was escorted to a dam site at the Barberton prison.

He said three warders beat Robert Khumalo, one of the three who later died, until he collapsed beside his wheelbarrow.

Another of the men who died, Mhlakaza Xaba, was lying on the ground and moaning. "I'm dying," Mr Mtembu said Xaba staggered to his feet and reeled away like a drunkard.

"This warder ran after Xaba and hit him on the back of the head. Xaba fell. The warder then put his foot on him and pulled him up by his left arm and hit him repeatedly."

Mr Mtembu told the court: "What I have said in my evidence is that I have seen three men being beaten to death."



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POWER ASSISTED CLUTCH		-	-	-	S	S	S	S
POWER ASSISTED STEERING		O	S	S	S	S	S	S
LAMINATED WINDSHIELD		S	S	S	S	S	S	S
STEERING COLUMN LOCK		S	S	S	S	S	S	S
THERMOVISCOUS FAN		S	S	S	S	S	S	S
REVERSING LAMP		S	S	S	S	S	S	S
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Police leave cancelled as Sind prepares for third week of violence

From Michael Hamlyn
Karachi

All police leave has been cancelled in the troubled province of Sind as the Pakistani authorities prepare for a possible third week of violent demonstrations against the martial law regime of President Zia-ul-Haq.

Yesterday, however, was the quietest day since the campaign of civil disobedience began on August 14, Independence Day. A number of individuals "court-martialed" in towns around the country; they appeared in the street at a prearranged time, and started shouting slogans against the regime. The police led them away to overcrowded jails. But no major incidents were reported.

Outside the New Town mosque in Karachi, not far from the tomb of Jinnah, the founder of the nation, an eager crowd gathered after midday prayers yesterday, rather like a gathering after matins on a Christian Sunday.

As the worshippers poured out of the mosque with their lacy skullcaps in place, Mr Muhammad Sharif, a leader of the left-wing Sind People's Movement, stood on a car and waved a paper placard. He looked over his shoulder nervously and began to shout slogans like "Death to Zia", "Zia is a dog", and other remarks in breach of martial law.

Nothing happened. He looked over his shoulder again down the road to where a police detachment in steel helmets were swinging their lathis, and

Gandhi backs call for democracy

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, yesterday endorsed her Government's statement in support of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan (Our Delhi Correspondent writes).

She told a meeting of the Congress parliamentary party that the people of Pakistan had been struggling for democracy, of which they had only a brief spell.

"We are a democracy and shall ever be so. We have to oppose injustice everywhere. We want that there should be democracy everywhere", she said.

When such things happened in India's neighbourhood, we are moved because these have repercussions in our country. We just cannot keep our eyes closed."

Mr Muhammad Yusuf, an additional city magistrate, solved the problem for them. With a loud hailer he informed them that prayers were over, and if they did not disperse they would all be arrested. Five minutes later a police inspector took the loud hailer and said their time was up; he was coming to get them.

He and a platoon of police strung out across the road walked towards them. The crowd suddenly remembered it was lunchtime, and melted away.

National Liberation Front, one of the eight banned parties forming the movement for the restoration of democracy that is organizing the civil disobedience campaign.

He too set off towards the police with his arms up in a Nixonian V-sign. As the crowd again began to pelt the police he waved them back. "No, no. This is a peaceful demonstration", he insisted. The policeman shook his hand and led him to the pick-up truck that drove him away with his hand still fixed in a V-sign.

At this stage earlier in the week the real business of the day would have begun with youngsters hurling missiles at the police and the police responding with tear gas.

There was a tense moment or two as the crowd, which had now grown to more than a thousand, hopped from one foot to another and wondered what to do next.



Desert encounter: An unflappable ostrich and a donkey carrying water pass a French armored car in Massakori, Chad, without showing any concern.

Chad envoy plays down his recall

From Diana Geddes
Paris

Mr Ahmad Allam-Mi, Chad's Chargé d'Affaires in Paris, tried yesterday to dispel suspicion that his recall to Ndjamena was linked with Chad's disapproval of President Mitterrand's comments on the possible creation of a federation in Chad or his lack of support for a counter-offensive against the Libyan-backed rebels.

Mr Allam-Mi said his recall, which came immediately after the publication of M Mitterrand's interview on Chad in *Le Monde*, was for "regular consultations" with officials in Ndjamena, and had nothing to do with the French President's statement. He is due to leave Paris on Monday.

Earlier, he had expressed satisfaction that M Mitterrand had confirmed France's firm support for the Chad Government against the "Libyan aggressor". There was no dispute between France and President Hissene Habré; the misunderstandings had been cleared up, he insisted.

But sources in Ndjamena indicated that Chad government officials are concerned about President Mitterrand's strong hints that the French would not back a counter-offensive against the key town of Faya-Lagau, and about his proposal for a federation.

● Ndjamena - M Charles Hernu, the French Defence Minister, began an inspection tour yesterday of French paratroops facing Chad's Libyan-backed northern desert. (AP reports).

Arab prisoners moved

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israelis find escape warren

In an effort to close off access to a warren of escape tunnels under the Arab prison camp at Ansar, South Lebanon, the Israeli Army has moved all 5,000 inmates, most of them Palestinians. They are being housed in a temporary compound while a permanent camp is built on higher ground nearby.

The Army's engineering corps are working around the clock to complete the new camp which has already started to take detainees. All are being held without trial by the Israelis, who have repeatedly refused to grant them prisoner-of-war status.

Confirming the evacuation of the original barbed-wire compound, built soon after the invasion in June last year, Israeli military sources told *The Times* that the new camp was needed to improve security and provide better winter conditions.

On Thursday night, two Arab escapees who were part of a mass breakout earlier this month were shot dead when they opened fire on an Israeli roadblock in Lebanon's Chouf mountains and three others were injured. Three more Arabs in the two cars in the incident were also killed.

Although journalists are barred from visiting the new Ansar

camp, I understand that the look of permanence comes from paved roads and huts for communal facilities.

The costly construction has added the impression that Israel is preparing for a long stay in south Lebanon after the imminent pull-back to the Awali River.

The sources said a number of tunnels had been discovered under the evacuated compound, in which hundreds of tents were burnt down or torn to pieces in a riot last month. They also spoke of the severe difficulties facing Israeli guards as military tanks grow among the PLO prisoners.

The indication of these problems came this week from a reservist who had just finished his term of duty at the camp. He wrote: "It is no longer clear who is whose prisoner."

The reservist, who claimed that the Israelis were losing control, added: "At night, you can clearly hear the sounds of underground tunnelling. All of Ansar is sitting on an underground tunnel system. Sometimes prisoners disappear and are found a few hours later, obviously having spent time in one of the underground caverns."

The military sources ac-

knowledge the difficulties but deny that control has been lost at Ansar. They argue that the guards would not have been able to supervise the transfer to the temporary camp if they had not been in control of the prisoners.

Mr Michael Ben-Meir, another reservist recently released from guard duty, has described how the prisoners dismantled handiwork kits and welded tent pegs on to their portable cooking stoves to make weapons. He told of Israeli guards being attacked with rocks and "cursed, spat and sworn at" by the inmates.

The original compound at Ansar, a hillside village near the town of Nabatiya, was guarded from watchtowers equipped with heavy machine guns, surrounded by barbed wire, earthworks and a perimeter that carried mine warnings. No details of the extensive new security measures in the permanent camp have been disclosed.

Although repeated efforts have been made behind the scenes to negotiate a prisoner exchange, none has yet come close to success, and the Israelis claim to be refusing direct contact with the PLO. Israel is also holding some 300 Syrian soldiers and officers captured during the Lebanon war.

150 held in Uruguay after protest

Montevideo (Reuters) - A call by Uruguay's political parties for people to remain indoors and darken their homes to show opposition to military rule turned into a noisy day of protest, with many arrests reported.

Witnesses said that at least 150 demonstrators were detained as they dispersed after a spontaneous rally in Montevideo on Thursday night at the end of the first day of protest called by all parties against the 10-year-old military government.

More than 2,000 demonstrators had earlier marched through the city after a day in which residents banged pots and pans to express their opposition.

Demonstrators made victory signs when they rallied on the square facing Government House and motorists sounded their horns in streets that had been nearly deserted for most of the day.

Leads showered around the capital in recent days by political parties did not call for a march or pot-banging; the parties instead asked people to remain indoors for two hours before switching house lights off for 15 minutes.

The protest was organized by a last group comprising members of all parties, including outlawed left-wing groups, set up after the Government banned all public political activity and publication of political news on August 2.

The Government, however, reiterated its pledge to hold elections in November 1984 and hand over power to a civilian administration in March 1985.

The August 2 ban followed the breakdown of talks between the Government and politicians when the three legal parties - the Blanco, the Colorado and the small Civic Union - stormed out in protest against proposed constitutional reforms which, they said, would give the military sweeping powers of political repression.

Chile opposition insists that Pinochet resign

Santiago (Reuters) - Political parties trying to oust President Pinochet of Chile have told Señor Sergio Jara, the Interior Minister, that the President must resign.

But after their meeting, the demand did not appear in a list of eight measures which the Democratic Alliance said the Government should adopt as soon as possible.

The meeting this week at the residence of the Archbishop of Santiago, was held only hours after the Alliance called for a new day of protest on September 8 to back its call for a return to democracy in 18 months.

Señor Jara said only that the talks had been useful and interesting and that further meetings would be held.

But the representatives of the five parties in the Alliance reiterated their view that only big political changes, including the President's resignation, could prevent the dialogue with the Government from becoming stultified.

Demands made by the Alliance included an end to the state of emergency, the legalization of political parties, the passing of electoral law, the return of all exiles, and freedom of expression and assembly.

Nicaragua rebels step up campaign

Managua (NYT) - Insurgents fighting the Nicaraguan Government have stepped up their activity in the past week, mounting at least eight attacks over a wide area of northern Nicaragua and inflicting scores of casualties, according to government officials.

Nicaraguan diplomats say they believe that as many as 2,000 insurgents have entered Nicaragua from bases in Honduras this month. The Defence Ministry issued a statement on Thursday asserting that the country was facing a new escalation of aggression.

The Defence Minister, Commander Humberto Ortega, last weekend said that the military situation had become difficult. The insurgents are said to have received millions of dollars in covert aid from the United States.

This week's fighting, which followed several months of reduced activity by the insurgents, has extended throughout northern Nicaragua, according to Sandinista Government reports.

Earlier insurgent operations were concentrated in the

western part of the country.

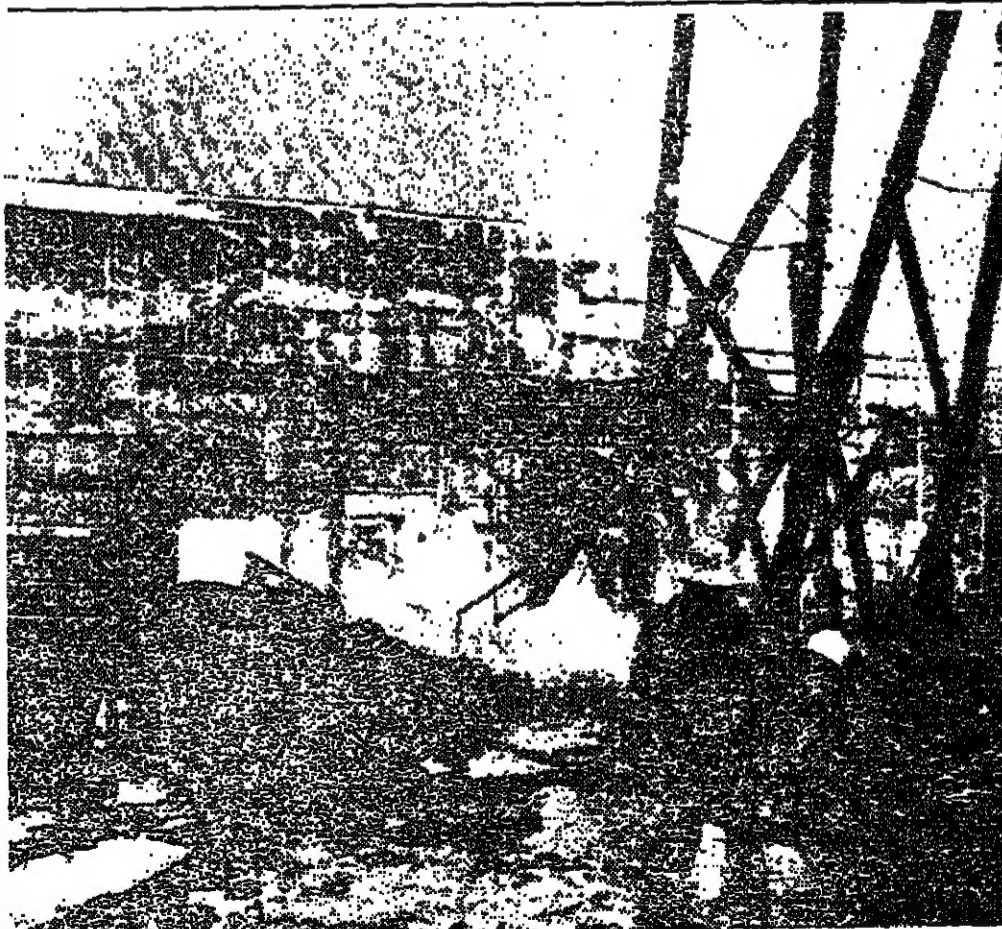
The appearance of hundreds of insurgents in the eastern province of Zelaya led Commander Ortega to speculate publicly that their goal was to seize Puerto Cabezas, an important port on the Caribbean coast.

He said the insurgents were seeking a place to establish a provisional government that would be recognized by the United States and its regional allies.

The insurgent campaign comes as the US is preparing to send as many as 6,000 troops to Honduras for manoeuvres expected to last up to six months.

● Rebels repelled: Militiamen in the northern Nicaraguan town of Ciudad Sandino beat off 200 rebels in a three-hour battle, killing 21, residents said yesterday (Reuters reports).

● Battleship arrives: The 57,000-ton battleship New Jersey and six other US warships arrived off Nicaragua's Pacific coast to begin military exercises. A five-ship battle group led by the 62,000-ton aircraft carrier Coral Sea is off the Caribbean coast.



Smokescreen: The aftermath of a huge blaze which destroyed sets at the Paramount Studios in Hollywood, including the sound stage being used for *Star Trek III*.

Bizarre start to Pérez de Cuellar's Angola mission

From Richard Dowden,
Luanda

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the secretary general of the United Nations, arrived here yesterday to a reception designed to impress upon him the strength and firmness of Angola's position on Namibia, then encountered a bizarre attempt to make him stay longer than he intended.

Given a public holiday, tens of thousands of Government supporters filled the airport and lined the streets to welcome him. Banners denouncing South Africa and the United States were suddenly draped across the airport road. As he stepped of his aircraft, a little girl ran forward as if to embrace him. Señor de Cuellar's face fell

in embarrassment as he realized she was tying an MPLA scarf around his neck.

Taken to a podium opposite a sculpture depicting an army boot as big as a house stamping on a South African soldier, he was subjected to an impromptu rally: 40 minutes of speeches in support of the MPLA and praising the 1976 revolution in which, with Soviet and Cuban military aid, it defeated its Pretoria-backed rivals.

President Eduardo dos Santos made a short speech repeating Angola's conditions for the withdrawal of Cubans from its territory: there should be an unconditional withdrawal of South African forces from Angola. United Nations Resolution 435 on Namibian independence should be rapidly

implemented and South Africa should stop acting in support of Unita.

"When these conditions are fulfilled then we will be ready to discuss with Cuba the progressive withdrawal of Cuban forces", said the President.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar had planned to leave last night but according to the Angolan programme he was to leave at midday today, having met representatives from the South West African People's Organisation (Swapo) and the African National Congress of South Africa. He is still planning to meet Mr Sam Nujoma, the President of Swapo.

The Angolans had also announced that Señor Pérez de Cuellar would arrive at 10.30 yesterday morning but the

drummers were still beating out a welcome an hour later.

Then at about 12.15 the Soviet Ambassador arrived from Moscow and was ushered into line to meet the secretary general. The rest of the diplomatic corps had been inexplicably dismissed earlier. The ambassador said later that he did not know that Señor Pérez de Cuellar's time of arrival was to be 1pm and he had not expected to be in the reception committee.

The UN Secretary-General is claiming some success from his visit to South Africa and Namibia.

● JOHANNESBURG: President de Cuellar believes that the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola should be handled separately from the indepen-

dence of Namibia (Ray Kennedy reports).

"I hate the idea of linking the two things," he said.

The Secretary General repeated that his talks in Cape Town and Windhoek were confined to his Security Council mandate to negotiate the speedy implementation of Resolution 435.

The South African Government views the withdrawal of Cuban forces as an absolute prerequisite. Señor de Cuellar said if he tackled the Cuban issue "it will be in an entirely different context, not in the context of Resolution 435."

Police with batons and pick-axes broke up a demonstration by Swapo outside his hotel in Windhoek on Thursday night.

Gemayel pleads for unity when Israel pulls out

From Kate Downman, Beirut

For those who remember the fiery speeches of Mr Amin Gemayel, the Lebanese President, made at the UN last year as he moved addresses to milice when he was a young Deputy, his televised speech on Thursday night was sobering. Wearing a dark suit, he faced the nation and appealed for help in his efforts to deploy the Lebanese Army in the troubled Chouf mountains.

No doubt his mood reflected the uncertainty the country is facing as the time for Israeli redeployment nears. As one left-wing newspaper, *As Saif*, put it, Mr Gemayel personified the calm before the storm.

In his speech, the President said: "The hour of challenge is approaching", and called on his countrymen to support the Government's plan to deploy the Army to the Chouf mountains in the event of an Israeli pull-out.

"The Lebanese Army will enter the Chouf with the people and not against the people because it is the only alternative to the armies of division."

Mr Gemayel's speech contained no great revelations or truths, except perhaps his first admission that the country was closer to partition than the Government had previously said to admit.

Not once did he mention the US or Lebanon's West European supporters, or emphasize - as he has done so many times

before - that the salvation of Lebanon would come through their support.

"You are the state and the state is you," Mr Gemayel said. "The new Lebanon will belong to all Lebanese without discrimination, hegemony or domination. There is no discrimination between one citizen or another..."

While setting the mind of the populace at ease by emphasizing that the Army would remain neutral if it entered the Chouf, where his father's Phalangist militia are fighting the Druze, Mr Gemayel gave no indication that he was closer to an agreement to prevent a violent confrontation. The Druze have said that one will be inevitable if the Army goes in without some form of reconciliation.

If Mr Gemayel captured the heart or attention of the man in the street, it is doubtful whether he scored a similar success with his unpredictable opponents, although the general reaction yesterday was somewhat reassuring.

One person who was not appeased was the Druze leader, Mr Walid Jumblatt, head of the Left-wing Progressive Socialist Party. He said the President's assurances were not enough and called on the Druze of the Chouf to rise up against the Army if it deployed in their villages.

Taking the wind from Malta's sail

From Wigg Madrid
Madrid

While Malta continued yesterday to withhold approval of the final document which would permit foreign ministers to conclude the European security review conference in Madrid next month, the 34 other delegations were trying to curb Valletta's opportunities for a propaganda exercise.

Spain's invitation to the foreign ministers to mark by their presence in Madrid from September 7-9 the spirit of East-West détente has significantly reduced the importance of Malta's obstructionist tactics. But the problem remains of deciding what conference sessions are to be held between now and then.

An attempt by neutral countries on Thursday night to gain Maltese approval of a compromise formula on Mediterranean security met with a rebuff.

Mr Evarist Saliba, the chief Maltese delegate, said afterwards that his Government wanted the other 34 nations to extend moral and material support for "any initiative" which Malta and other participating Mediterranean states may launch in the post-Madrid meeting period "concerning security in that region. This was rejected by Western delegations as a demand for a blank cheque."

● BONN: Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany emphasized yesterday that his country would go ahead with the deployment of intermediate-range nuclear missiles if American-Soviet arms reduction talks in Geneva fail (AP reports).

But he said recent letters to him from President Reagan and President Andropov showed there was still hope the two sides could reach a missile limitation agreement this year.

"I shall do everything I can to influence the talks in Geneva... so that they will achieve a result this year," Dr Kohl said. "And I am not pessimistic," he added.

The Chancellor insisted that West Germany was sticking "to both parts of the Nato two-track decision and we are equally serious about both parts. For me the first part - negotiating part - is not just any part," Dr Kohl told a new conference at the end of his summer vacation.

Satellite weapon 'tested by Russia'

Frankfurt (AFP) - The Soviet Union tested an anti-satellite weapon above Munich in June, 1982, according to the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. "Secret Western information" showed the test, while not wholly conclusive technically, proved that the Russians were capable of destroying satellites above Soviet territory.

MP cleared in Montreal

Ottawa - A Montreal judge has ruled that Mr Bryce Mackasey, aged 62, a Liberal MP and former minister, does not have to stand trial on three charges of influence peddling (John Best writes).

He was charged with illegally accepting a \$400,000 (£120,000) loan in return for trying to obtain government contracts for a Montreal machine tool firm. Two businessmen, Mr Robert Harrison and Mr Jean Bruyere, still face charges of attempting to bribe Mr Mackasey.

Track record

Washington (Reuters) - On a journey from Florida to New York the "Silver Meteor" train ran down and killed a woman on the line, collided with a lorry abandoned on the track, struck another lorry that had stalled on a crossing, and was derailed. Nineteen of the 413 passengers were treated in hospital after the last incident.

Vote marathon

Lagos (AFP) - Nigerians vote today for the fourth successive Saturday this time to elect a federal House of Representatives, the 450-member lower chamber of the National Assembly. There is no voting in the western state of Oyo and Ondo.

Rain toll

Bayonne (AP) - Four people drowned as six others were reported missing after torrential rain hit the French Basque country. Three people died when their camper was swept away by high water near St Jean-de-Luz.

Back to work



President José Figueredo of Costa Rica, aged 65, who returned to work yesterday after recovering from a heart operation in the United States.

Aides accused

Yaoundé (AP) - Two close associates of former President Ahmadou Ahidjo of Cameroon, Major Ibrahim Oumharou and Captain Ahmadou Salatu, have been accused of "attacking the security of the state" and will be brought to trial.

False alarm

Baguville, Quebec (AP) - A Wardair DC10 charter flight from Calgary to London, carrying 297 passengers made an emergency landing at a Canadian military base here, after a faulty fire indicator light went on.

Blast questions

Berlin (Reuters) - West Berlin police have questioned eight Armenians living in the city in connexion with the explosion at the French consulate on Thursday. They were not detained but police examined a large amount of printed material.

Lima protest

Lima (Reuters) - About 5,000 workers, carrying empty pots and pans, marched on Congress to protest against hunger, unemployment and the Government's economic austerity measures, but police prevented the demonstrators from approaching the building.

Uganda deaths

Kampala (AP) - Three members of the ruling Uganda People's Congress youth wing were killed when gunmen attacked Bukasa, near the Ugandan capital. A policeman was shot dead while setting up a roadblock near Kyanja.

Seychelles link

Victoria (AP) - The Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade, Mrs Chen Muhua, held talks with President Albert René in the Seychelles capital on economic and technical cooperation.

Super spiders

Moscow (Reuters) - A plague of highly-poisonous Black Widow spiders has hit the southern Soviet region of Astrakhan. The spiders, which have killed a number of camels and other animals, emit a poison 15 times stronger than that of a cobra.

THE ARTS

Radio
Slaving
away

I suppose many of us entertain the reassuring notion that, in the wake of William Wilberforce, and whatever else may be wrong with the world, we have at least been able to leave behind us the condition in which one man actually owns another as his property. Not quite so. In *The Unbroken Line* (Radio 4, August 23, producer, Jock Gallagher) Adam Raphael was able to give instances not only of practices which amount to slavery (debt-bondage in India, the enticement of jobless American workers into labour camps where they are held by force and without proper pay), but of the present day ownership of one human being by another.

In Mauritania in West Africa, slavery was last outlawed three years ago - after several previous and unsuccessful enactments - and still it has not disappeared. Indeed it cannot disappear for it seems that the Mauritanian economy would collapse without it. Free the slaves, compel their owners to pay them and these owners would quite simply be unable to do so. A few might be retained as paid servants, the rest - amounting to many thousands - would end up on the streets, deprived of any means of support. In such a case, at such a time, effective abolition would apparently be worse than the offence, for the slave's lot is not always wretched: there are good masters as well as bad.

Raphael's other examples, though arguably not out and out slavery, were to my mind more squalid and disheartening because they all involved an element of callous deceit. The Haitian authorities knowingly engage large numbers of their own black people to cut cane for the mestizos of the neighbouring Dominican Republic (who don't stoop to such work) under conditions which the victims only later discover to be servitude.

Indian labourers acquire unavoidable debts to their landlords and are then trapped for life, never earning enough cash to discharge the debt, which may only be the equivalent of £10. We heard a landlord declare that he paid his workers not in kind but cash (as he is supposed to) and assert that they had only told the BBC they were under debt-bondage so as to underpin their claim for government handout. No doubt it happens, but that still leaves a proportion of the landlords lying their heads off. Not quite the programme Wilberforce might have hoped for to mark the 150th anniversary of abolition.

That same last Tuesday was used to mark although a few days early, another anniversary, the eruption of Krakatoa, in 1883. Anyway, Sean Maffett's *Once in a Blue Moon* (Radio 4, producer, John Knight) was none the worse for arriving in advance. It was a most vivid reconstruction, its pictorial qualities enhanced by the inclusion of archive recordings of eye-witness survivors.

Two of the week's plays sounded quite exceptionally at home in the medium of radio. Tony Flaherty's *Before I Am Old* (Radio 4, August 23rd) told a familiar story but did it with unusual sympathy; English Neil on a visit to Connemara encounters Mary, youngest daughter of a local working family, a relationship beautifully portrayed in all its early innocence. Mary ends up pregnant; Neil does the gentlemanly thing and offers to marry her, but the community, represented by the local priest, closes its solid Irish Catholic ranks on the foreigner and, to his amazement, sends him packing. The play was constructed as a flashback in the frame of Neil's later sentimental visit to the woman he had once loved, a visit calculated to destroy all sentimental feelings, the actors (Anon Lesser and Marcelle O'Riordan) expertly conveying how each had changed. Fine evocative direction by Marilyn Ireland in Belfast.

On Radio 3 *The Barometer* (August 25), translated by James Naughton from Alexander Kliment's Czech original, included touching, mellow performances by Pauline Lettis and Michael Spice under the direction of Christopher Venning.

David Wade



Richard Gaddes: Determined to buy American

John Higgins introduces the Opera Theatre of St Louis, the first American opera company to come to the Festival, and its creator, Richard Gaddes

The choice of the first American opera company to visit Edinburgh has fallen on the Opera Theatre of St Louis. Ten years ago there was virtually no grand opera in St Louis. The town which is bisected by the Missouri, relied for its summer music on "the Muni", the Municipal Opera in the city park which supplied, and still supplies, the usual summer stock season of Porter and Kern, Rodgers and Hammerstein, with a big star in each show. In the winter there is, of course, the St Louis Symphony.

The man who introduced opera to St Louis, and vice versa, in this century is Richard Gaddes, an Englishman who learned his trade at Glyndebourne and then Santa Fe before setting up his own company in the Mid-West. During its eight seasons to date the Opera Theatre has attracted both acclaim and critical attention - the last four have all been reported on this page. The reason takes little seeking from the outset Gaddes has been determined to introduce the unfamiliar both in terms of repertoire and singers. There

must have been a temptation to go for the tried and tested in a city with little or no operatic tradition, but it was resisted. Each year the St Louisians are given a familiar work, a *Traviata* or a *Rigoletto*, but at the same time they are encouraged to sample what cannot be tasted elsewhere.

As with the operas, so with the singers. Gaddes decided to steer away from the hardened campaigners of the touring circuit and instead took a chance on singers just embarking on their careers. Here the background of Glyndebourne and Santa Fe clearly had an influence, because both houses have for long had a justified reputation for seeking out and nurturing young talent. Gaddes, however, added another element in vocal terms he was determined to buy American, although his producers and conductors could come from elsewhere.

In the season just ended in St Louis there was one Canadian mezzo, but the company was American. And United States citizens make up the entire casts at Edinburgh. The choice of

repertoire is also thoroughly representative of what might be heard in St Louis: a concert of Sunday Evening Pops to show off half-a-dozen members of the company (tomorrow), followed by two performances each of Stephen Paulus's *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (September 6-9) and Delius's *Fennimore and Gerda* (September 8-10). The first is a European premiere, while Delius's opera, apart from a St Pancras production some years ago, is scarcely writ bold on the musical map.

"What's to be found in the Operatic Art?" was a *New York Times* headline for a report on the last St Louis season. And Gaddes reckons that he spends quite a few happy hours up there under the eaves. He also thinks that the Edinburgh repertoire virtually selected itself. There was originally talk of Rossini's *La cenerentola*, which Jonathan Miller wanted to direct with Frederica von Stade in the title role. But then Jonathan decided to leave the theatre altogether and that put paid to that. In one way I was not sorry. The

arrangement was for us to sing it in St Louis in English, since that is our tradition, and then release it in Italian for Edinburgh, where they prefer opera to be performed in the original language. But that would not have been a facsimile of a St Louis production, which is what I want to present to Edinburgh. "So we turned to Paulus and Delius. When John Drummond approached me I was riding high on the success of *Fennimore*. It was a new style of production and it also reflected, I suppose, my natural tendency to shy away from standard pieces. That was our English connexion. So we then needed the American connexion. The first act of *Postman* had just arrived on my desk and I thought it had a very reasonable chance of being a success."

"Maybe it was an irresponsible risk. We'll see. I'm fully aware that there has been little exposure over here to American opera. And those who go along expecting to hear something in the style of Britten, Walton or Berkeley will be surprised to come across a soft-shoe shuffle in Act II. But let's hope that

audiences will be familiar with the James M. Cain novel, or its film versions, and that they will enjoy it as a piece of drama."

The St Louis visit came about almost by accident. The first choice of John Drummond, Edinburgh's Festival Director, was Santa Fe, but the negotiations fell through. He bumped into Richard Gaddes one day at the Metropolitan Museum in New York and the deal was virtually arranged on the spot. St Louis have not previously played outside their home state, although they were on the verge of going to Monte Carlo a couple of years ago. Gaddes believes that the time is now right for a limited amount of exposure abroad.

"Artistically, I think we have developed and refined a company style and the orchestra [drawn from the St Louis Symphony] is now well used to playing opera. From a practical point of view it stimulates our buying power among young singers because they know that they will come to us with a reasonable chance of being reviewed overseas."

Concerts

Summer Music
Elizabeth Hall

Togetherness is a virtue much prized in summer gatherings of musicians, and too often it is assumed that the feeling - comradeship, warmth, and let's have a bash - will make up for the absence of the musical fact.

Thursday's remarkable contribution to what is proving to be an exceptionally successful Summer Music series had, however, every sort of togetherness. A string sextet whose members can scarcely all be familiar with each other gave wonderfully sophisticated accounts of Schoenberg's *Verklarte Nacht* and the Brahms *G major Sextet*, and even avoided the diet of treacle for lunch, treacle for supper which made the programme at first appear unalluring.

There was a clear identity of purpose between the concert hall and the Young Uck Kim and his partner on many occasions, cellist Yo Yo Ma: their playing was intense, though I found Kim rather insistent and unrelaxed. Greater poise was shown

BBCSO/Elder

Albert Hall/Radio 3/4

The absence of Tippett's symphonies from the concert hall has been heavy; the burden was lightened on Thursday when the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Mark Elder brought No 2 to the Proms.

Whether unfamiliarity was breeding contempt or merely uncertainty as to whether the music was likeable stuff or not, the number of disruptive, ill-tempered exits and entrances from the auditorium rivalled those in the pit at the legendary first performance.

But for those who stayed, the aural preparation of Beethoven was rewarded by a performance which took its salute to the earlier master, sensed the vibrant undercurrents of Vivaldi and Stravinsky, and through it all spoke the name of its

Nineteen-year-old Brian McCarron went through the windscreen of his car after a head-on collision with a heavy lorry last November. He broke both legs, his nose, a wrist, lacerated his face, virtually destroyed one eye and severely damaged the other. The only lucky thing for him that day was that the accident occurred within the area covered by the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, where life-saving techniques, particularly in emergencies, have been extensively developed by more than a decade of the emergency.

Only 1 per cent of patients admitted to Ulster hospitals, even at the height of the troubles, were victims of sectarian violence, but the Royal Victoria sits in the hot spot and all patients have benefited from the advancement of its doctors' skills.

Channel 4's *Trauma* last night, produced and tightly

on the first viola line by the superlative Nobuko Imai, who concentrated all Brahms's effusive warmth into her melodies and gave the strange open-string oscillation of the Sextet's first movement an eerie quality.

Csaba Erdelyi matched her, gesture for gesture, with complete precision, as did Christopher Warren-Green (who played second violin to Kim with restraint and careful blending).

Though there were moments when the group's sense of internal tuning faltered - in the lovely tinge of E flat in the Brahms G major opening, and more oddly, in the simplest variation of the Adagio - the general matching of phrasing and feeling was very natural, the balance unforced. There was heavy peasant fun in the Trio of the Brahms Scherzo, but the finest moments were both visionary: the rippling arpeggios in the last section of the Schoenberg, with cello pizzicati perfectly swept; and the glorious coda of the Brahms Adagio, rising up over a seemingly endless cello pedal note.

Nicholas Kenyon

Great and Small

Vaudeville

Both Strauss's play has had a rough ride on its way to London, and now that it has arrived it would gladden my heart to welcome a work that has succeeded on other European stages as well as saluting the mad courage of Glenda Jackson and her management in launching a large-scale experimental German piece in the West End. On the strength of Keith Hack's production, though, I do not feel I have yet seen the play.

Great and Small first appeared in 1978 in a five-hour production at the Berlin Schauspielhaus, where it was described as an alienated woman's journey through the desolate landscape of West German consumer society. Its method - which does survive on the Vaudeville stage - is that of the expressionist *Stadionendrama*, that discards articulated plot in favour of a series of dislocated tableaux held together only by

composer with clear, often beguiling conviction.

At times the joyful vigour of the opening movement, the teasing baroque of the last, were softened by an edge of reserve; but the work's sheer inventive energy broke out time and again in the delicate engaging of the cogwheels of strings and wind, the light spring within each harp-dappled episode, the deft interlarding of levels of density.

The tenderness of the second movement was poised between the deliquescent trumpet, piano and harp solos and a balletic, Stravinskian bending of the supple orchestral body as energy seemed contained in stasis. And Mr Elder's eye for detail enjoyed the third movement's pattern of tickling and kicking rhythms - again a little on the safe side of risk-taking but still constantly engaging.

Hilary Finch

Television/Weekend choice

were eight days in intensive care. It was 47 days before he left hospital, having lost one eye but able to walk and joke - his humour stirred amazingly early - and with some hope for better vision in his other eye. Doctors and medical students would make the most of it all but, for the rest of us who stoically endured, there was at least the knowledge that humanity can do its best to cure as well as kill. Alenci Sayle didn't really take us back to his Comic Rovers on BBC1 though he did pay a visit to his native Liverpool. There and elsewhere it was mainly pubs with Mr Sayle doing an extended act. He is a very funny man but there was time to yawn. His wisecrack when he forsook pub for wine bar will stick in the mind, however: "When somebody in Hampshire drowns, all their previous furniture passes in front of them."

Dennis Hackett

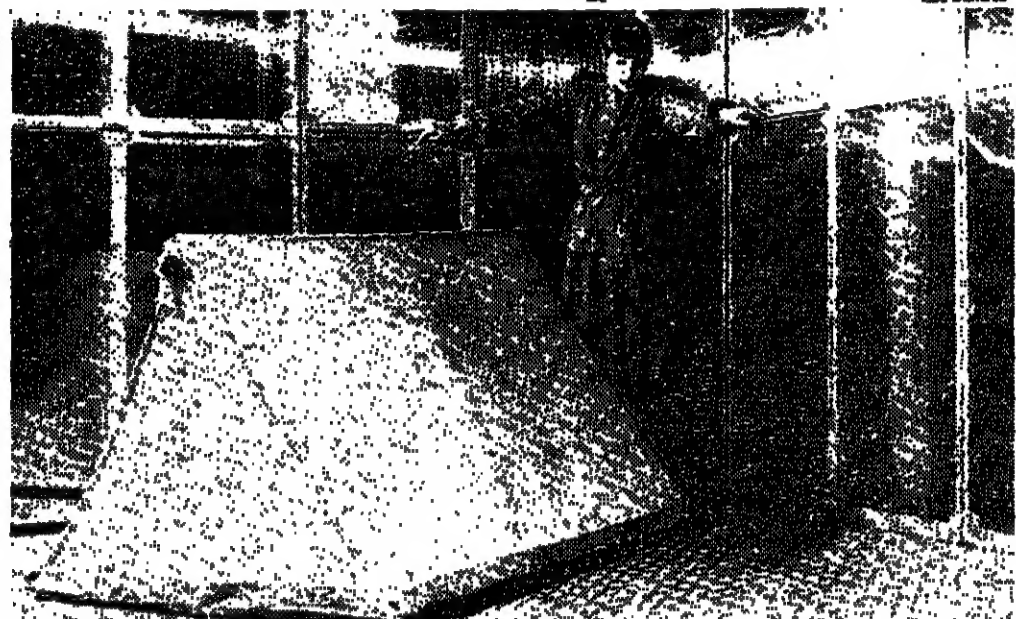
It is safe to assume that anyone out for lunch tomorrow, who whips himself up into a froth of indecision over whether to settle for lobster or go for the *foie gras*, will not have watched *Breadline Britain* (tomorrow, noon, ITV), in which blind, partially deaf, diabetic Mavis Gold, with only 1½p in her purse until the delayed Giro cheque arrives and only half a dozen eggs left and a half-loaf, disconcertingly puts such gastronomic dilemmas into perspective. In tomorrow's film, the air is thick with dust from the crumbling dreams of radical reformers like Beveridge who had visions of an era when want would be banished. The sharp clicks we can almost hear are caused by the social security benefit traps as they snap shut on the desperately needy.

Fifteen unbroken hours of rock 'n' roll on BBC 2, starting today at 3.15, is an act of partisan programme-planning

unparalleled in the annals of British television. I suspect the BBC would not have dared to do it if August was not traditionally the closed season for anti-BBC snipers. But, if it had to be done at all, one must admit it has been done with spectacular flourish, and the long feast includes at least one good movie, George Lucas's *American Graffiti* (tonight, 11.00pm).

Recommended listening: The Cricket Match (tonight, Radio 4, 8.30), John Rattallack's plucky attempt to convert Hugh de Selincourt's classic account of a one-day encounter on a village green into something like a radio play (odd timing, though, on the first day of the football season); and Liberty Comes to Kriahwinkel (tomorrow, Radio 3, 7.30pm), Sybil and Colin Welch's adaptation of Nestor's stage comedy about the Austrian students' rising of 1848.

Peter Davalle

Theatre
Worlds apartGreat and Small
Vaudeville

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Glenda Jackson and tent person

the hero's search for self-realization.

It is not a style that has ever found much favour over here; but one can imagine it working powerfully in the case of Strauss's *Lotte*, a separated wife vainly striving for human contact in a world of closed doors, and finally taking up residence in a hospital waiting room where, like the audience, she will sit forever awaiting treatment.

In the Vaudeville version we first see Lotte sitting alone at a cafe table during a package tour of Morocco where she has not managed to speak to a single soul.

The isolation intensifies when he comes home. Her husband throws her out again; she finds brief refuge in a tenement basement, and then sets off in pursuit of old friends and relations only to meet renewed defeat.

Marooned on a pile of rubbish, she has an angry encounter with the Almighty, and proceeds on her journey to the waiting room convinced

that she is one of the 26 righteous persons of Jewish myth.

Some impression of the surrounding world does filter through: a place where no mail arrives except catalogues, outdoor furniture has to be chained to the concreted garden and marriages are kept going only by ever-growing wardrobes.

But whatever David Essinger's efforts to relate the play to England, the result gives you scant invitation to identify this society as your own.

Glenda Jackson goes through most of the evening wearing a brave, brilliant smile in calculated contrast to her circumstances. She opts throughout for a low-status relationship towards those who reject her.

Her one great outburst, played with the self-confronting cries of a hurt child, is fine emotional acting; but it does not rescue her from appearing simply blind and uncomprehending rather than enabling you to view the events through her eyes.

Irving Wardle

LSO/Abbado

Usher Hall

So urging an undercurrent is the Vienna 1900 theme of this Edinburgh Festival that almost every concert has one rushing back mentally to the main festival exhibition. There we were in the Usher Hall on Thursday, listening to a performance of Schoenberg's *Erwartung* such as can rarely have been equalled, knowing that only half a mile away in the National Museum of Antiquities rest for the moment a selection of his paintings on the subject and a page of his manuscript.

All the books tell us that Schoenberg composed his fevered operatic monologues in nine days, from which might one suppose the autograph is one long Beethovenian scrawl. Not a bit of it. The notation resembles rather that neat, precise, little calligraphy of a Webern, and whether Claudio Abbado has seen it or not, he certainly knows that the plunging speed, the variety and the intensity of Schoenberg's expressions depend on the realization being as near perfect as human musicians can make it. The London Symphony Orchestra came pretty close.

I wondered if the score can ever have sounded so surely beautiful. The obvious opportunities for beauty are there, of course, in the odd strands of yearning string music that come like dislocated memories of earlier, more innocent music,

perhaps even of Strauss Waltzes. Mr Abbado and his players duly made these sing. But their rarer accomplishment was to defeat ugliness of sound wherever it became possible, not by muting effects but rather by placing them like stars against a great, distant vault. The menace was still there, in the rattle of low harps, the march of a bass cabinet, the shriek of trumpets, but added to it was an extraordinary appeal. *Erwartung* turns out to be a score brimming over with icy sensuousness, not just a nightmare.

As such it provides all the decor the work needs. No visible scenery could possibly keep up with the pace of performance like this, and Schoenberg's own smudgy canvases are surely not stage designs but only attempts to set down instants from performances going on inside his head.

Afterwards came something almost as uncommon: a performance of the "Eroica" Symphony that sounded heroic but never vainly so. The LSO were in resplendent form, the wind led by delightful solos from flute and oboe, the strings quick in response to changes of colour and texture, the three horns nicely cast as rough diamonds with the mud of the chase on their boots. And Mr Abbado directed them superbly in a manner that looked forward to the splendours of Wagner and Bruckner but kept the comparative naivety of Vienna 1900.

Paul Griffiths

Dance

like sugar-icing gnomes in plus-fours; the women have lace skirts and put on tiaras for the finale.

Giving this work on the same bill as Balanchine's *Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No 2* invites unkind comparisons, but what a joy it is to see the latter ballet again, and so exuberantly danced by a cast who find no need to be pompous about its ceremonious choreography.

Merrill Ashley's bravura technique makes the ballerina role ring bright and clear, and she has developed a joyousness to enhance her always brilliant dancing. Adam Luders brings a good bearing and secure dancing to the male lead, but should look at the ballerina, not the audience, when landing on one knee.

John Percival

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Roy Strong

My trunk route grand tour

A cedar of Lebanon guards our house. I look out on it as I write. It is supposed to have been planted in 1815 and acts as a mnemonic for the date of the battle of Waterloo but, in another sense, it is the first tree that I ever really got to know well. It has been a good friend and a noble teacher because I have been frantically looking at and planting trees ever since.

It is an even better inspiration to be exposed to the enthusiasms of a genuine "tree man". The late Sir Richard Cottrell, a peppery soul and guardian of a mighty Repton landscape, was such. His eye and mind were all trees. Once, to mark the coronation, he walked me round his creation, Queen's Wood, just outside Hereford. We paused at each tree or group of trees, considered its form and shape, when it was planted, and its rate of growth. There was almost a solemnity about our stately progress.

With another "tree man", Lawrence Banks, one swoops from one trunk to the next at Hergist Croft, exclaiming over its texture and colour with a fervour of aesthetic appreciation more generally applied to an antique textile. It is always exciting to be in touch with a way of looking at things which most of us bypass. For most ordinary mortals, trees are just things that happen to be there. I would quite like one day to go on a great tour of Britain tour in the same way as we visit our cathedrals or country houses. I for one have already begun to compile a personal anthology of favourites.

I would have to begin with the ancient oaks of England, and none for me can surpass those in the royal chase at Hatfield. I was once taken to see them by the late Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury in a hair-raising cross-field expedition to trace the eighteenth-century road that still remains there. A monument to times past when roads actually went round trees. There were, vast gnarled specimens that must have witnessed many a royal hunting party, and beneath one of which the young Elizabeth I was sitting on the November day that the news came from London of her sister's death.

That, sadly, is now only a stump, so I would have to include another royal tree, the Boscombe oak, or rather its descendant. That still flourishes, although I have only seen it across the fields from the mount in the garden. The original perished as a result of the onslaught of souvenir hunters avid for twigs and whole branches. I would also have to include the vast evergreen or holm oak at Westbury-upon-Severn, whose mighty branches are supported from below by props. And the elms of Worcestershire would also have figured but, alas, are no more part of the elegant pattern of Elgar's landscape.

The only fruit trees that stick in my mind are those trained into extraordinary shapes. There is a spectacular group at Powis Castle, first glimpsed from above. They have been tied and trained into orderly domes as exact as though they had been composed with the sweep of a compass arc. At Barnsley House, Gloucestershire, the new potager has, as centre points of the vegetable beds, apple trees trained as crowns. And there is the marvellous avenue of venerable, espaliered apple trees that leads away from Cranbury Manor towards great gates and the beyond.

And that brings me to avenues. The majestic sweep of sweet chestnuts down the hill away from Croft Castle would come high on my list. So would the pleached lime avenue at Sissinghurst, Kent. I would add to this the Lombardy poplar avenue planted by the late Duke of Wellington in the house he lived in near Stratfield Saye in Hampshire, arranged in a steep false perspective up towards the skyline and thus seeming to stretch into infinity.

Does the stilt hedge of hornbeam at Hidcote, Gloucestershire, count? I hope so, as I have a personal penchant for the architectural treatment of trees which must be antithetical to the pure "tree man". John Fowler copied this effect for his Gothic lodge in his minute masterpiece of a garden which would also have to be included. He once taught me how to get mistletoe to grow in the boughs of fruit trees, but I have never been able to achieve it.

But perhaps my favourite single tree is one just outside Stow-on-the-Wold, by which I have driven times without number. It is a variety of *acer palmatum*, a small tree with a crown of leaves which unfurl in the spring, bluish pink streaked with the palest green. Perfect in form, it arises at the side of an entrance to a great house directly opposite the lodge. Every spring one waits for the magic moment when this astonishing being begins to blaze once more. I always feel grateful to whoever planted it for siting this rare and exotic tree where everyone who drives along the road from Tewkesbury to Burford over the Cotswolds can savour its glory.

Sir Roy Strong is Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Peter Nichols

Making tracks to childhood

As everyone knows, this is not the Age of the Train. Not the age of the nightmail crossing the border but the container lorry careering across the safety barrier. The age of the train was yesterday, childhood, another country, and those of us who enjoy railways resent British Rail's lie because the attempt at now-ness robs trains of glamour.

For who plays lorry driver? What boy in his right mind arranges motorway pile-ups on his bedroom floor? Could anyone travel hopefully on a day trip to Victoria coach station? Or make a bit of "Pardon me, boy, is that the inter-city diesel"? And who can forget the excursions of childhood?

I remember as though it were last week the waking before dawn for fear everyone else would oversleep, the wolfed down sandwich and mug of tea, the last chance to do number one in case the train had no corridor. All five of us squeezed into the tiny car for a short drive to the local station of Craven Arms, where we crossed the footbridge to the down platform, already packed with other parents and their children, burdened with packed lunch and swimming togs.

While adults swapped weather forecasts, most children looked up the track towards Shrewsbury for the 6.50, all four carriages of it. We wanted to sit near the driver but an officious guard directed us further back.

Now the sun was up, promising yet another glorious day of the kind we seldom see any more. Weeks of tropical warmth had not forewarned the crew, and radiators belched hot air till a father went to complain. The view as we gathered speed enhanced even familiar villages like Broome, Bucknell and Hopton Heath but after Knuckle Halt the 13-arched viaduct took us across the border into a foreign country short on vowels and strong on f's. Llangunllo, Llanbister Road and Troedriweddwen plunged us into Abroad, the balls hardly long enough to read the names.

The next three towns had all become something Wells when the line was built in 1865, bringing these remote drovers' towns within reach of metropolitan hypochondria. Llandrindod, Llangamarch and Llanwrtyd joined the roster of spelt A shed at one is said still to be full of the abandoned crutches of satisfied customers - a touch of PR to equal BR - and trains on this line literally took the waters, bottles of barium to the grateful to connect at Swansea so that London health-breaks could complete their cures at home. All we saw from the carriage was a great hotel.

After Sugar Loaf Summit, the way was all descent, through a deep tunnel and over another high viaduct with amazing views of a wooded valley. The beauty was almost monotonous - sheep fording streams, anglers waving from river banks, bikers on a suspension bridge - but relief came when we reached the gruesome collieries and works

The author's most recent play, *Poppo*, was produced by the RSC last year.

THE TIMES DIARY

Russian roulette

The chances of the Bolshoi Ballet coming to London next year are as evenly balanced as a ballerina in the Rose Adagio. Tony Banks, MP for Newham North West and chairman of the GLC arts committee, says it will be decided within a month, strictly on questions of costs, though the thing that most makes him want the Russians to come is the displeasure it would cause the Government. "They have written outlining their objections because of the invasion of Afghanistan," he says. "I was not very impressed. If they say the GLC should not take an interest in Northern Ireland, I do not see how they can expect us to be interested in what happens in Afghanistan." If the Bolshoi do come to the South Bank it will not be the usual balletomanes who get to see them. Banks says: "We are not in the market to provide more subsidised seats for people who only complain about their rates." His plan is that, if the Bolshoi come, tickets should be allocated to tenants' associations, housing associations, pensioners, welfare claimants, and the like.

● Last Tuesday on a train due to leave Waterloo at 19.16 the guard announced: "We are sorry for the late departure of this train. We have two drivers fighting to take this train out and hope the issue will soon be resolved."

Beastly

Impressed, no doubt, by our efforts to find a symbol for the European Currency Unit, now to be the subject of discussion at an international conference on the future of the ECU in Luxembourg next month, the EEC has started looking for a symbol of its own. An animal mascot has been suggested for a publicity campaign aimed at schools. The industrious squirrel, hiding its harvest for future use, has been rejected because of its association with agricultural surpluses. The eager beaver is unsuitable because it is the mascot of the Free Quebecois. The most popular suggestion from Commission staff is a sloth.

BARRY FANTONI



'He probably needs more hotels and Marylebone station'

Bangering

I rather think the Meat Promotion Executive, who sponsor the British Sausage Bureau, has entered my PHSausage joke competition for which the Bureau's Sausage Time clocks are prizes. The Executive's latest press release claims: "British sausages do not need 'pricking'." After the shattering explosions under my grill yesterday morning, though, I reckon it is still a sensible precaution, at least until Mrs PHS resumes culinary duties.

End of run

The village which was BBC-TV's *Clochemerle* in the serialization of Gabriel Chevalier's classic yarn of the construction of a French village *parcours* is turning fiction into fact. Vaux-en-Beaujolais, which denied it was Chevalier's model for *Clochemerle* until the BBC chose to film there, celebrates the opening of an up-to-date concrete *passoir* tomorrow afternoon with a gala fête and ball. Though modest in size the new facility makes an important concession to modernity. It caters for the needs of both sexes.

No change

The Black Watch were the victors of Waterloo yesterday for the third year running. The battle was won on the playing fields of Werl in Germany, where they are stationed, with the Scots, who actually won their main battle honours days before Waterloo at Quatre Bras, acting the part of the Irish, Welsh and even the English. The enemy was provided by Belgian grenadiers while local Germans, led by their fire brigade, played the Prussians. They were under strict orders not to turn up an hour late, as they did in 1815.

During the run of the 7/84 theatre company's popular show *Men Should Weep* at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, a local jogger tethered a stuffed reindeer to the front of the building with a notice attached: "I am the first in tonight's queue." The theatre kept the beast on to advertise their next show, starring Warren Mitchell. Now, after a two-month closure, the theatre administrators find the animal has been whisked off to the Edinburgh Festival among 7/84's props, and is currently appearing in their presentation, *Women in Power*. "We want the reindeer back," a spokesman for Stratford East protests. "We resisted him, and we were planning to put him in our pantomime." PHS



Top right: Count Alexei Nikolaevich Tolstoy. Top left: Tolstoy with Konstantin Simonov and H. G. Wells in Leningrad, 1934. Above left: Visiting the Soviet air force in 1943. Above right: Relaxing in the country with his third wife, Ludmilla, 1941

The Tolstoy in Stalin's pocket

In order to ensure the presence of the celebrated writer Count Alexei Tolstoy among her house guests that summer, the well-known society hostess Valentina Khodasevich took the precaution of sending him an invitation months before, in the winter. The count was, after all, a great catch. He was the country's most famous novelist and playwright and a nobleman of high rank, and also the richest man below her rank in all Russia. In country houses, and city mansions he was always in demand: charming, affable, talented and generous, his presence ensured the success of any house-party, reception or dinner.

"My husband and I," Mme Khodasevich recalled, "invited Alexei Nikolaevich and his wife to come to us in the summer at the village of Dubovo on lake Seliger, where we had a delightful, fair-sized house. For the use of guests we kept a couple of yachts and several canoes. The house was situated on the edge of the lake. . . . Generally we crossed in our canoes to the opposite shore, where there was a marvellously sandy beach."

Readers may justifiably imagine that we are back in the palmy days of Tsar Alexander II, when peace reigned from Baltic to Pacific, the

spirit of revolution had been stilled, and the Russian nobility led a life of unimaginable luxury and pleasure. Those unfamiliar with Russian history may be surprised to learn that Count Tolstoy's Elysian holiday was not spent in the summer of 1890 - but that of 1940. Twenty-three years earlier revolution had swept away Russia's aristocracy in torrents of blood, and in its place had proudly risen the world's first socialist state.

However, the career of Count Alexei Nikolaevich Tolstoy may serve to illustrate some surprising realities of Soviet society.

by Nikolai Tolstoy

confident of the required attitude, and again attacked the playwright for having "distorted history". He took the hint properly in the third version. A totally new Peter trotted the boards; a calmly beneficent ruler, devoted only to the reconstruction of his country, quite tactful and virtually chaste, and hated only by vicious foreigners. In the first version the pathetic Tsarevich Alexei is opposed to his overriding father on personal grounds, but in the 1938 version (the year of the Munich crisis) it turns out he was planning to betray the country to the Germans. All this of course involved conscious distortions of history, which Tolstoy appears to have been happy to perpetrate. What mattered was not to relate his Peter to the Peter of history, but to his twentieth-century successor.

Tolstoy's reward was commensurate with his efforts. He received the Stalin Prize of 100,000 roubles and was enabled to enjoy a lavish lifestyle. In Stalin's eyes to be the apotheosis of Peter the Great conferred enormous benefits. It exonerated the fearful suffering inflicted by a Russian autocrat on his people, on the grounds that this was a necessary sacrifice on Russia's path to greatness. It required a man of gigantic courage, prepared if necessary to sink his arms to the elbows in blood, to drag this stagnant country forwards.

Alexei's fascination with the figure of Peter the Great dated from before the Revolution. In 1928-29, he came back to the subject with a play entitled *On the Bank*. In 12 scenes, ranging from 1698 to Peter's death in 1725, a picture is provided, similar to that in *Peter's Day*, written in 1918. The squalor of his personal life, his epilepsy and the brutal pointlessness of his career were again highlighted. But inevitably the fuller perspective of the play took more note of Peter's mighty achievements, such as the building of St. Petersburg and the victory of Poltava. Fearful of being accused of conniving at a presentation too sympathetic to a Romanov, the Moscow theatre director invited Stalin himself to the dress rehearsal.

When the great man left early the worst was feared. Many people, after all, had marked the inevitable parallel between sufferings experienced by the masses under Peter's dragging with the use of forced labour occurring in their own time during the implementation of the first five-year plan. The agitated director, Bersenev, ran out to try to placate the testy leader before he could enter his car. Meanwhile critic after critic mounted the stage to voice their indignation at the disgraceful piece of monarchist propaganda to which they had just been subjected.

After the eleventh speaker had voiced this view, the audience of the dialectical aphorism that "from a clash of opinions, truth is born", he congratulated the 11 speakers on their unanimity. However, he felt that others might think differently. . . . in fact someone had already expressed a contrary view. Comrade Stalin had thought the play "wonderful" in every respect, save that of not portraying the Tsar heroically enough. There was a stunned silence, followed by a crescendo of cheers. "Long live Comrade Stalin!" All subsequent critics and reviewers shared Stalin's favourable impression.

In 1934 Tolstoy produced a revised version in which much of Peter's cruelty and coarseness was omitted, and the positive gains of his career given more prominence. But by now the critics were

intervened to suggest a more tactful version. Most startling of all was the elevation to generous patriot of the sadistic chief of the *oprichniki*, Malyuta Skuratov. Clearly Stalin believed that Beria too deserved some credit.

Finally, in his novel *Bread*, Alexei abandoned allegory and gave his public Stalin in person as hero. The theme was the siege of Tsaritsyn (afterwards Stalingrad) in 1918. Stalin's unbelievable heroism under fire and cool organization of victory is described in ecstatic terms, and contrasted with the unspeakable Trotsky's blackhearted treachery. The story (published in 1938) was so false and fawning as since to have embarrassed even Tolstoy's most ardent Soviet admirers; though at the time nervous reviewers naturally hailed it as his greatest achievement.

Tolstoy's assistance to Stalin during this dangerous period was considerable. After the death of Gorky in 1936 he was considered Soviet Russia's greatest writer. His better works gained international respect as inspired literature. Sustained by his solid prestige Tolstoy's historical novels underlined the inevitability of the communist triumph and portrayed in vivid colours Stalin's two greatest predecessors, who like him had been reluctantly obliged to inflict colossal suffering on the people in order to achieve Russia's greatness. As



Three Tolstoyes: Leo, Alexei and Nikolai. In his book, from which this article is extracted, Nikolai Tolstoy writes: "Few families have produced a higher literary talent than that of Leo Tolstoy, but few have descended to one as degraded as that of Alexei Nikolaevich." The book is *The Tolstoyes: Twenty-four Generations of Russian History 1353-1983*, to be published by Hamish Hamilton on Monday price £12.50.

There was another significant aspect, one which in all probability accounts for Tolstoy's immunity from harm during the lopping of thousands of loyal heads in the late 1930s. Tolstoy had been at pains in his novel to remind his readers that the Tsar's ablest servant had been another Count Tolstoy. Peter Andreievich, Peter Tolstoy had initially joined Tsar Peter's enemies, but after staying in Western Europe returned to render his master brilliant services. But it was not so much this parallel which struck Stalin, but that with Count Leo Tolstoy. The greatest ornament of nineteenth-century Russian culture had been one Tolstoy, and now Stalin's Russia possessed another. The leader's immortality was assured.

The elevation of Stalin-Peter was far from being Alexei Tolstoy's only service to his master. It had not escaped his notice that a far more apt parallel was to be found in the prison of Tsar Ivan the Terrible, who had organized an effective predecessor of the NKVD, the *oprichniki*, with which he waged war on the Russian people. In 1942 Alexei began work on two plays depicting Ivan the Terrible's heroic struggle to create a modern Russian state. Maybe he killed vast numbers of people, but this was necessary in order to overcome the fractious dissent of the boyars and the ignorance of the people. As for the *oprichniki*, well, they were a self-sacrificing group of warriors devoted to protecting the country. Tolstoy's original version had them defending the autocracy, but Stalin himself

propaganda for internal and external consumption it was superb. It touched precisely the chord to which impressionable foreigners responded so well.

Many of the themes and revisions of Tolstoy's writings were directly suggested to him by Stalin himself, and the author was at times ready to oblige by some new convolution of ideas. His services did not pass unrewarded.

He and his wife settled down in "baronial style in a rambling, many-roomed mansion stocked with rich antiques," by the Catherine Park at Detokoe Selo, outside Petrograd (soon afterwards Leningrad). It was surrounded by a cool garden, overlooked by a terrace, where the author loved to stroll on an evening and prune his roses.

Alexei Tolstoy's other house at Barvika was the greatest draw for Moscow high society. High party officials, actors, writers, and ballerinas vied with each other to obtain the entrée. He was after all, an internationally famous writer, bore one of the most famous names in Russian history, and was the only nobleman publicly surviving in the country. Alexei's relations or other nobleman now in exile might have found the pose of *grand seigneur* a little false, for despite his ancestry Tolstoy had not been brought up or ever moved in aristocratic society. But they were far away, and with the Soviet elite he did very well.

For there is no question but that Tolstoy's title and lineage received homage in revolutionary Russia incomparably greater than he had



P.O. Box 7, 200, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 9EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A GRAVEL VOICE FROM ETTRICK

Mr David Steel's missive from Tweddale, Ettrick and Ram-bouillet has put his party in a tizzy. The tone suggests that the post-influential asthma of which his GP has spoken has not completely cleared up. The content makes it certain that the party's conference next month will be an acrimonious affair.

It was heading that way in any case. Sections of the party are still so sure that the joint manifesto to which the Liberal leadership subscribed with their partners in the SDP was over-compromised. In particular it kept options open about the stationing of cruise missiles in Britain instead of coming out against it as the Liberal assembly had done, and it omitted mention of blood sports. So there is a move to strip the party leader of his final say on the manifesto.

Mr Steel has quite rightly made this a matter fundamental to his remaining leader. What matters is not that the last word on the manifesto should be personal to the leader but that it should remain with the parliamentary leadership and not be given to some extra-parliamentary body. With the awful warning before them of what happened to the Labour Party when it fought an election on a manifesto which most of its shadow ministers would have liked to disavow and had to explain away, and with a well-organized move to block the proposed amendment, it is unlikely that the critics of Mr Steel's "autocratic" leadership will win that point against him.

Mr Steel's letter ranges more widely than the details of the party constitution. It enters into personalities. He demands to

know why Mr Tony Greaves has not been up before a drum-head court martial for disgraceful conduct in the face of the enemy. Mr Greaves is chairman of the Association of Liberal Councillors which put out a distancing document of its own about policy in the course of the election campaign. He represents the pavement school of Liberal politics, which has usually been at odds with the party's shadow statesmen.

Mr Steel also demands to know why someone is not doing something about the Young Liberals, cavorting with Mr Ken Livingstone and Sinn Féin, and vulnerable, he suspects, to entrisms. He also has a smack at Mr Cyril Smith for not putting his weight in the Liberal "front bench" in the Commons.

One had supposed that since Mr Steel has so long and so successfully laboured in the vineyard of the Liberal party he must have become acclimatized to the disorderly dotiness that has always enriched its proceedings. Something has now happened to turn indulgence into exasperation.

That something - apart from any change in how Mr Steel personally is feeling - must be the fact that the Liberal party now stands within reach of political power. It is no longer just a ginger group, a vehicle for political ideas on their way in or their way out, a phenomenon of the Celtic fringe, a gymnasium for working out political fantasies. There is now a real possibility that it may come to form a major part of the first alternative to Conservative government.

Mr Thatcher, according to an

interview she gave the other day, now sees the Liberal party in that light. It is certainly Mr Steel's ambition to make it so. That was the heart of the letter.

I am certainly willing and indeed keen to continue as leader, but only on the basis that the party itself is gearing its efforts to offering an alternative government to Mrs Thatcher at the next general election.

If it wants to ponder about the sidelines I will be happy to remain a loyal member but not to continue indefinitely as leader.

Mr Steel is not the first leader of the Liberal Party to try to galvanize his membership in the serious pursuit of political power. Mr Grimond marched his troops towards the sound of gunfire (imagery aptly presaging the red meat of politics). But Mr Steel is the first post-war Liberal leader to stand in a position from which the appeal sounds forth as more than bagdadod.

If the Liberal Party is to convince the voters that its trust and its men are fit to be trusted with a primary share in government it will have to reform its political manners.

Responsibility calls for another style. If Prince Hal is to become King Harry, foolishness will have to be banished from the court. The party will also have to get its developing relationship with the Social Democratic Party right. Mr Steel is abundantly justified in trying to concentrate the minds of his colleagues and supporters on these matters ahead of their annual conference. Whether his abrasive way of doing it will go down well or badly is at this stage a question for specialists in the psychology of Liberalism.

ODD MAN OUT AT MADRID

Plucky little Malta again stands alone, defending itself from the combined onslaught of the thirty-four other countries represented at the European security conference in Madrid. It is a matter of considerable significance that a meeting of foreign ministers next month could provide an opportunity for the US Secretary of State George Shultz to hold talks with the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in an effort to improve relations between the super-powers. But the Maltese delegation appears to give more weight to including in the final conference document an agreement on holding discussions on security and arms reductions in the Mediterranean area.

Insisting on these worthy aims, however, has prevented the participating countries - the United States, Canada and all European states except Albania - reaching the consensus required for the formal signing of the document concluding the three-year Madrid follow-up to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). In desperation Spain has now arranged a "political meeting" in September to endorse the final agreement, but unless Malta yields beforehand, this will not have formal CSCE standing.

The strains in East-West

relations have provided more than enough complex problems to keep delegates arguing interminably without introducing the Pandora's box of the Mediterranean and Middle East. Nonetheless, at Helsinki in 1975 Malta managed to insert in the Final Act a vague reference to the relationship which exists "in the broader context of world security, between security in Europe and security in the Mediterranean area". At Belgrade in 1978 Malta pressed successfully for a gathering of experts on Mediterranean cooperation to be held the following year in Valletta, but at the Madrid follow-up the Maltese delegation failed to win support even from the non-aligned countries. Neither the Finns nor the Swedes succeeded with their compromise proposals, and in a rare show of agreement both the United States and the USSR have denounced Malta for blocking the conclusion of the conference.

In Malta itself Mr Dom Mintoff's ruling Labour Party is opposed on this issue by the Nationalist Party, which argues that he has no mandate from the other Mediterranean countries to speak on their behalf, and agrees with the general European view that his proposals are impractical. Mr Mintoff, however, en-

couraged by the support he received at the last non-aligned summit in Delhi, persists in his efforts to promote Malta as the meeting place of European and northern African civilizations and to give it an international role greater than that of most countries with a population of less than a third of a million.

The real significance of the CSCE is as an international forum to discuss the observance of human rights in participating countries - an element in the trust without which no genuine disarmament is possible. Yet delegates have agreed to hold a European disarmament conference next January in Stockholm, allowing Moscow to treat it as a separate and more important matter than the discussions on human rights at Ottawa in May 1985 and on family reunification in Bern in April 1986 - to be held only months before the next general follow-up conference in Vienna.

The principles underlying disarmament and human rights are related and should be defended with the stubbornness now shown by Malta in less practical ways. The frustration felt by negotiators at the CSCE is understandable, but for all its shortcomings it is a forum worth preserving.

SHAKEN TO THE CORE

A claim that parts of Kent and Canvey Island, with its vulnerable concentration of oil and gas installations, could be hit by a "large earthquake" invites scepticism, like a report that the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse had asked for clearance to land at Heathrow. There is something millenarian, almost Monty Pythonesque about it. Yet it was the subject of discussion this week in Brighton at that serious forum, the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr Robert Muir Wood, a senior geologist with the engineering consultants, Principia Mechanica, displaying the fruits of his research into British earthquakes since the year 600, ended with a plea for the British, who "still believe earthquakes are about as English as pizza", to take the matter seriously and imitate the French and Germans by establishing a national network of monitoring stations.

Whitehall brims with contingency plans for disasters of all kinds, both man-made and acts of God, but not, it seems, for

earthquakes. A spokesman for the Cabinet Office, which houses the Civil Contingencies Unit, said there was nobody with a set of earphones crouching in a Whitehall cellar listening for tremors. Though the Institute of Geological Sciences, a part of the Natural Environment Research Council, does have a monitoring capability of a sort.

Dr Wood identified a number of earthquake-prone areas in Britain, one of which runs from the Pembroke Coast via Swansea to Hereford. A small earthquake in Hereford exactly eight years ago brightened the pages of an August Bank Holiday Weekend edition of *The Times*, as it surprised a sergeant in the Special Air Service at the Bradbury Barracks, who admitted that his regiment was not trained to withstand such shocks. It also inconvenienced a police sergeant who confessed that it has taken him an hour to console his parrot which fell from its perch. The headline "Earth tremor shakes Hereford Parrot" reflects just the kind of

flippant attitude Dr Wood wants the British to drop.

Certainly, it cannot have been much fun in Colchester in April 1884 when chimneys toppled, church walls cracked and tiles poured off roofs. The phenomenon was taken much more seriously in the last century. The village of Comrie on the rim of the Highlands was dubbed by the Scots as their "earthquake capital". The first seismometers in Europe were installed there in 1840.

But at least until really shaken, Dr Wood's fellow-citizens will not be easily persuaded that they ought to be worrying about the movement of tectonic plates beneath the British crust. They have other things on their minds. If his strictures do find a response in Whitehall, the Home Office's revived civil defence effort might be adapted for post-quake operations. And should the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse land at Heathrow, well, the SAS are trained to handle that.

'Jobs' in Whitehall

From Mr R. C. Griffiths
Sir, Your "Whitehall Brief" of August 2 blandly reports that the present surplus of Government economists at economic adviser level and above - an inevitable result of the specialist mania which swept through Whitehall in the 1960s and 70s - may well be converted into administrators with the prospect of filling "mainstream policy jobs". The same solution is no doubt being advocated for the many similar surplus staff in other graduate specialties.

Surely the administrative history of the last 35 years in Britain and elsewhere must at last have convinced all objective observers that these "mainstream policy jobs" in the centre of the government machine require - cannot be well done without - a combination of strong intellectual powers, complete political objectivity, a pleasant personality, genuine motivation for this form of public service and a life-long capacity for self-education.

These qualities can be, and often have been, found in people recruited to the Civil Service for particular

specialist functions, but such paragon are rare.

Let us never forget how vital these posts are, how ineffective training courses are in developing the necessary qualities in those that do not have them, and how carefully therefore their holders must be preselected - as Trevelyan and Northcote pointed out in the 1860s, as Haldane reiterated in 1918 and as Edward Bridges maintained to the end of his distinguished career.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. GRIFFITHS,
2 St Albans Villas, NW5.

Second thoughts about the Rhine

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeech

Sir, General Sir David Fraser has argued (August 19) that the advantages which you ascribe to taking BAOR out of the line are illusory. In supporting him, I would go further. Such a course would, I believe, be prejudicial to Britain's security and endanger the peace of Europe.

The political reasons for the British commitment remain of overriding importance. These hinge, surely, upon the necessity to provide the Federal German Republic, as a non-nuclear Power, with adequate security. Failure to do so might well bring about a perception of insecurity in West Germany which would lead to a demand for increased armed strength. This the Soviet Union could only view with apprehension, with the possibility of pre-emptive attack.

The feasibility of raising the nuclear threshold by exploiting the much more effective non-nuclear weapons now being developed may well lead in order to win force deployments. If so, some modification of the British commitment may be agreeable to our Allies as well as to ourselves. Until then, perhaps we should re-examine the way in which it is proposed to deploy and operate the not inconceivable naval and air forces available to Nato in north-west Europe, in the defence of shipping, and the destruction of Soviet Naval air forces if they should attack.

It seems to be somewhat inconsistent, to say the least, to complain of the West German Navy "wasting resources" acquiring an Atlantic capability while expressing concern about Nato's flanks and rear. As much flexibility of sea-air power as we and our Allies can achieve is essential in order to cope with the unpredictable events against which you so wisely warn.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MCGEECH
Southern,
Castle Hedingham,
Halstead,
Essex,
August 20.

From Mr Michael Chichester

Sir, General Sir David Fraser's predictable response (August 19) to your constructive and forward-looking leader (August 17) emphasizes the ingrained opposition which will have to be overcome in any attempt to drag Nato's strategic doctrine into the eighties and simultaneously to modernize Britain's military role in the Alliance in line with developments in technology and weapons, with the changed nature of the Soviet threat and, above all, with the realities of Britain's economic resources.

Those who support so stridently

Green Man mysticism

From Dr Adrian Flick

Sir, Paul Pickering's sceptical reference to Herne the Hunter's "socialist mysticism" (feature, August 4) culpably underestimates Herne's perennial role in English culture - albeit in his better-known persona of Green Man - as the revolutionary new hero of the modernist movement of received assumptions.

Popularly acclaimed for his appearances in May Day ceremonies, on pub signs and in cathedrals, the Green Man is no stranger to films. Last Christmas, television viewers had a chance to see Nigel Green play his most celebrated literary namesake in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.

That a medieval poem should be filmed at all is proof of the Green Man's power to revive and revive, and in the poem his role is precisely to challenge the establishment and question its complacency.

Coming forward in time, it is significant that Shakespeare's *Lea* ("fantastically dressed with flowers", IV, vi) should play the Green Man once he has become aware of his

the continuing and financially extravagant deployment of 35 per cent of the whole British Army (and 10 per cent of the Royal Air Force) in West Germany in peacetime seem unable or unwilling to grasp the strategic and economic realities of the situation which now faces the British Government as it prepares for its next defence "review".

The Soviet military threat is now global and capable of damaging action against Western interests both within and beyond the Nato "area". You rightly point out the dangers of Soviet outflanking manoeuvres and proxy operations for neither of which British's Rhine Army is trained or equipped to deal.

Should an attack on western Europe be launched, despite the risks of nuclear escalation that such an initiative would carry for the Soviet Union, the modernization of Warsaw Pact forces, and the increased range and power of many of their weapons would enable them to accompany the assault on the central front with offensive action against lightly defended rear areas throughout the Nato area.

The United Kingdom base, the security of which is vital to enable Nato forces on the Continent to be reinforced and supplied, would be one of the primary targets for such action, which would include air and missile attacks, a mining offensive against ports, and possibly even landings by airborne troops. Yet current British defence policy, as enshrined in the 1981 Defence Review, is to weaken the Royal Navy to a nationally unacceptable level (see your front page article in today's issue - August 23), to make only modest and insufficient improvements in the air defences of the United Kingdom, but to maintain the present West German deployment whatever the costs.

Finally, it has to be realized that with present levels of defence costs Britain can no longer afford to maintain sufficient forces to sustain adequately each component of her historic multi-role contribution to Nato's collective security system and to provide for the security of national interests, whether at home or overseas.

Your leading article outlines some of the initiatives that Britain should take to remedy this situation. When faced with the realities and with constructive ideas to overcome the difficulties which these realities create, it is hard to believe that our Allies would receive them with "astonished concern".

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CHICHESTER,
The Mead House,
Burford,
Oxfordshire,
August 23.

shameful neglect of the people; and that Malcolm should instruct his soldiers to do likewise (*Macbeth*, V, iv: "Let every soldier here him down a bough...") to achieve tyranny's overthrow.

In our own day Gladys Mitchell, Henry Treece, John Heath-Stubs, Kingsley Amis and Peter Vansittart have revived the Green Man for English literature. Few, it must be conceded, have envisioned him in socialist terms; and I myself, as Jack-in-the-Green for last year's GLC May Day Festival, earned only rebukes for irrelevance from Young Socialists present (as well as skirmishes with skinheads).

All the more welcome, therefore, is this socialist "reenactment" of Robin Hood. It is to be hoped that a poet or novelist will equally rise to the challenge of giving this folk figure the leftist reincarnation he deserves, sufficient to convert sceptics of all parties to a renewed vision of Herne's centrality to our culture.

Yours etc,
ADRIAN FLICK,
The Abbot,
9 Broadhurst Gardens, NW6.

Mobility at the top

From Professor J. Coveney

Sir, Mr George Walden's article "On your bikes at the top" (August 5) suggesting the establishment of a British version of the French Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) is very timely, in view of the changes being made in the management of the Civil Service.

However, Professor P. G. Moore has missed the point in his letter (August 11) when he states that we already have parallels to the ENA in the UK in the shape of business schools, such as those at London and Manchester. The French, too, have their elite business schools which are the true parallels with the UK business schools; they even have an international business school, INSEAD at Fontainebleau.

Rat and ratings

From the Director of Programmes of TV-am

Sir, It is flattering to be the subject of two leaders in *The Times* in the course of our six short months of life, but alas it seems we can do nothing to please our journalistic elders and betters. When our ratings were down we were addressed as though we were the victims of some media holocaust; now they are beginning to mend we find ourselves transmogrified into a rat. Neither assessment is fair.

In fact TV-am produces more hours of television than any other commercial television company. Of these 21 hours a week, some two hours are devoted to weekends to children's programmes with an additional half-hour during school holidays. The nature of this output was spelt out in some detail in our franchise application and thus forms part of our undertakings to the IBA.

Since going on air our children's department has been consistently

an institution of very high reputation with which we have nothing to compare yet in this country.

The first step on the road to a British version of the ENA is to change the rules regarding mobility at the top of the Civil Service so that people like George Walden can enter politics and return at a later date to the Diplomatic Service without loss of pension rights, etc. Such mobility is perfectly possible in the French Civil Service and encourages a high level of entrant to the ENA who is not dedicated to spending his entire career as a civil servant.

Yours faithfully,
J. COVENEY,
University of Bath,
School of Modern Languages,
Claverton Down,
Bath,
August 16.

successful and Roland Rat a valued member of this team. Accordingly, at the outset of our first school holidays, he was duly given his head. His ratings, and subsequently *Good Morning Britain's* ratings, improved dramatically. As a consequence, Roland Rat and TV-am seem, in the eyes of some of our Fleet Street rivals, to be synonymous.

But to judge our overall output solely by the Rat is like seeking shifts in BBC policy through an in-depth analysis of the political stance of *Blue Peter* - or maybe its balanced successor, *Red Peter*. Should any journalist - like rodents, perhaps nocturnal - steal himself to rise early enough to join the increasing number of the public at large who watch TV-am's general output he would find a programme not only free of rats but containing a variety of items, popular and serious.

To give recent instances: our coverage of the general election was widely considered to be balanced and authoritative. TV-am News was alert to providing the first pictures of the Sicily Islands air disaster; we

Aims of picture gallery at Lord's

From Mr E. W. Swanton

Sir, Reporting on allegations concerning the authenticity of a number of pictures hanging at Lord's you correctly say (*The Times*, August 22) that our display is "nonetheless the most comprehensive collection of cricket memorabilia in the world". Your comment exactly expresses the aim of MCC since its famous treasurer, Sir Spencer Ponsonby-Fane, started in 1864 the collecting process which still continues today.

Our object is to present the game and its history, not to rival the Tate Gallery - though several of the pictures whose authenticity is now questioned have been shown there.

The oil paintings in dispute are those collected by the first Sir Jeremiah Colman, whose son of the same name, father of the present baronet, Sir Michael, in 1947 generously donated to the MCC the 52 oils and 30 prints illustrated in *The Noble Game of Cricket*, published by his father. No doubt is cast on the prints nor on pictures of high quality such as "Village Cricket", by John Ritchie.

Others are not given a high artistic (or insurance) rating. In several cases Miss Diana Rait-Kerr, then Curator, whose work in re-assembling the club's collection after the war, incorporating the Colman collection and furnishing the newly-built Memorial Gallery, won general acclaim, especially in the labels accompanying them her own reservations.

The *Mail on Sunday*, in a long debunking feature, characterized the collection as "to a large degree worthless rubbish", apparently on the evidence of Robin Simon who, with Professor Alastair Smart, is showing in several places an

exhibition with a catalogue entitled *The Art of Cricket*.

These gentlemen in their preface write: "It would have been impossible to write the book at all without long study of the basic collection of works in the Memorial Gallery at Lord's without the privilege of access to the MCC archives, generously made available to us by the Curator at Lord's, Mr Stephen Green, to whom we are indebted for many kindnesses."

Accusing MCC of deception, the *Mail on Sunday* itself deceives. Two eighteenth-century pictures are shown one above the other, divided by a caption inferring that the one labelled "fake" is the one on display at Lord's. The truth is precisely the opposite.

Implying MCC ignorance, the article queries the exact location of a match of 1860 near Charles Dickens' house, Gadshill Place, Rochester, and also the involvement of his 11-year-old son, and repeats exactly the points made in the label in the Memorial Gallery.

Of the 250-odd illustrations of all sorts at present on display at Lord's about 30 pictures are in need of label revision or replacement. This is being put promptly in hand. Meanwhile cricket-lovers will no doubt continue to patronize the exhibition of cricketers at Lord's, as do thousands each year, either individually or in groups - at a cost of 50p, not 75p as stated.

All in all it may be thought that Mr Simon has not played with an impeccably straight bat.

Yours faithfully,
E. W. SWANTON,
(Chairman, MCC Arts and Library Subcommittee),
Delf House, Sandwich, Kent,
August 25.

Local income tax

From Mrs Laura Grimond

Sir, Your leading article, "Tied hand and foot" (August 2) suggests that "there is no consensus on an alternative to the rates". But is this any longer true?

On yesterday morning's Radio 4 programme we heard a Tory MP make an eloquent plea for a local income tax, recommended seven years ago by the Layfield committee and supported today by many people of all parties in local government, such as the present convenor of Strathclyde Regional Council and Mrs Patricia Kirwan, of the GLC (author of *Londoners and the Rates*), as well as others in academic circles and financial journalism.

The Liberal Party, at its Assembly in 1982, passed by an overwhelming majority a comprehensive policy on local government finance of which two main features were a reformed system of grant and a local income tax (LIT), while its allies in the SDP also favour it as an additional tax to rates. Amongst those who have given the matter serious consideration it would seem that there is now a consensus that LIT is the only alternative to rates and many believe that it is a better one.

What then is the obstacle to its introduction? It is hardly credible in an age when children speak the language of computer technology which the silicon chip has almost

turned into a toy, that the cost and complication of calculating and collecting LIT prevents its introduction, already found possible in Canada and five European countries including Denmark, whose Kommunes even LIT collectors. Is it rather that the idea is anathema to the Treasury, who are unwilling to surrender what they see as a tool of economic management?

The record shows that local government has increased its spending less than has central government. Its follies come under closer scrutiny, where it fails in its accountability and in the motivation of its electors to act as effective policemen of local expenditure.

There are 24 million income taxpayers but only 15 million rate payers. Local elections, in which, according to the Director of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, only 17 per cent of those who vote actually pay rates, not surprisingly reflect national rather than local issues. The case for inadequate democracy is not to transfer control to central government, which you, Sir, so well argue is not equipped to carry out the task, but to make it work better by reforming its system of finance.

I am, yours etc,
LAURA GRIMOND,
Old Manse,
Firth,
Kirkwall,
Orkney,
August 3.

Motorway accidents

From Dr Edmund J. Cantilli

Sir, I have been in London participating in the Institute of Transportation Engineers' fifty-third annual meeting at Kensington Town Hall, and I read your letter to the Editor on August 20 entitled "When speed limits fail to save lives". Mr Michael Macoun, in commenting on August 17's "disaster on the M4", when "a truck careered out of control across the central reservation", points to North America as a case in point, where the "maximum speed permitted is 55-65 mph", as, apparently, a solution.

I cannot speak for Canada (or Mexico), but I would assure Mr Macoun that, in the US at least, the 55 mph limit, which applies to every state, is not enforced and, indeed, is considered unenforceable.

But the solution to accidents of the type mentioned is contained in Mr Macoun's words describing a truck careered "out of control across the central reservation". There is no good reason for a vehicle of any size to be permitted to cross the central reservation. Proper barriers should be erected to prevent this type of accident from ever occurring again.

Yours etc,
EDMUND J. CANTILLI,
Professor, Transportation,
The Polytechnic Institute of New York,
333 Jay Street,
Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA.

Areas of beauty

From Mr Frederick Gore, RA

Sir, Very little public voice has been given to the concern felt for the village of Luddesdown, in Kent since the announcement that the Ministry of Defence have purchased one third of the parish's acreage and are seeking permission to use the land as a military training area (mimelaying and general infantry training).

Luddesdown is in the green belt some 23 miles from London. It is already classified as an area of outstanding natural beauty and a special landscape area. Part is an area of high natural conservation value and it overlaps a site of special scientific interest. This proposal is believed to be contrary to the policies of both borough and county.

The Army's need to find land close to existing training areas can be appreciated, but the respect which the ministry now for ecology and their care of farmland do not in this case allow alarm. To make only one point: there is obvious outstanding natural beauty in the narrow winding lanes with high banks and arched trees (where cars must back to pass). A little unwise improvement can easily destroy the remote charm of a place which is only a few miles from motorways and main roads.

The triangle between Wrotham, Gravesend and Rochester - from Cobham Woods to Birling Gap - is a very special, beautiful and much loved corner of historic Kent. Luddesdown, small and secret at its centre, should be sacrosanct. Such places are easily spoilt.

Yours faithfully,
FREDERICK GORE,
Flat 3,
35 Elm Park Gardens, SW10,
August 24.

Missing the point

From Mr Francis Wayne

Sir, Down Under is more picturesque. Examples include: "Slow Tortoise Crossing" (Albany, WA); "Lyrebirds Cross" (Melbourne); "Go Around this Pole" (Kalgoorlie); "Narrow Gully" (no hyphen, Lake Hawea, NZ); "Horrible Bump" (Haast Pass, NZ); "Bends for 35 miles" (Orango, NZ); "Adele, evildoer" (a village, south of Perth, WA). "Don't have a bloody crash here We have no bloody hospital".

Yours truthfully,
FRANCIS WAYNE,
Eing-Brachaidh,
Lochinver,
Lairg,
Sutherland,
August 11.

of 51st Highland
North Africa and Sicily

Endsville, he was always forward, urging weary men to final effort, and it was remarkable that he was only once wounded.

The division was engaged in almost every action of the campaign, and Winburn himself maintained that the best of them all was the

Wadi Akarit. He landed only a single day, that of the April 1943, and cost the division heavy casualties, but it drove the Germans from almost the last holdout on Africa.

The Sicily landings were made on July 10, and the capture of the island of complete on August 14, a year and two days after the Highland Division disembarked at Suez. It was in the Sicily campaign that he won the Distinguished Service Cross and was appointed CBE.

In 1943 Wimberley was

appointed to command Staff College at Camberley, and in 1944 became Director of Infantry. Two years later he retired at his own request and became Principal of University College, Dundee, a post which he held for eight years before retiring to Coupar Angus, Perthshire. He was for six years Gentleman Usher of the Scots Rod in the Order of the Bath and for 10 years Colonel of a Regiment, and he received an honorary degree from the University of Aberdeen.

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B. JAMESON
victim of multiple sclerosis.

Known universally as "Bland", to nine-year-olds as septuagenarians alike, she lives a life of service to others. In

she knew how to enjoy nature too, and one of her favourite occupations was ice-figging, skating in the historic Englewood style. After childhood expeditions in 1895 on a frozen meadow in Lexington, St. Louis she learned to skate properly in Switzerland in the Edwardian years.

Joining the National Skating Association in 1908, she passed its English-style gold medal proficiency test, and last year became a judge of tests at chemmings. She officiated

until she was in her 90s, never losing her acumen of mind and appreciation of the finer points of style. She was made gratified in 1962 when the NAAU appointed her, and the 1964 Olympic champion Roland Cosens honorary life member and they received their certificates at the same ceremony at Wembley Arena.

She maintained her interest to the last, being an enthusiastic supporter of the new Oxford Club. A few months ago, she

MR. W. CARRINGTON
Mr William Preston Carrington, a West Indian millionaire investor who with loans helped thousands of blacks to move into many formerly all-white areas of Brooklyn early in the century, died in Brooklyn, N.Y., on August 21. He was 91. Carrington was born

Later he and his younger brother, Ethelbert McDons Carrington, bought property often through white associations acting as fronts in areas Brooklyn that were then closed to blacks, such as Bedford Stuyvesant, Brownsville, East New York and Williamsburg.

Betts, Mr. Desmond, Kent
 consultant, of Maidstone, Kent
 £387/4
 Finch, Mrs. Hildegard, Heide
 Johanne, of Petworth, West Sussex
 £312/7
 Hudson, Mr. John, of Trysull, W.
 Midlands £201/4

Letter, Mr Samuel, or Humphrey	1754, 15
Neave, Mr Hugh Alexander	2244, 8
Stringer, of Langley, Hertfordshire	1754, 15
Nunes, Mr Henry Philip, of Thoresby	1754, 15
King, Mrs Hilah Louisa Bell	1754, 15
Barnstable, Devon	1754, 15
Wallwin, Josiah, of Nottingham	1754, 15
Willis, Mr Graham	1754, 15
Aspley, Surrey	1754, 15
Willis, Miss Mary Alice Florence	1754, 15
of Weybridge, Surrey	1754, 15

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27 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Ronald Faux finds the acceptable face of hang-gliding, a sport which has made great strides towards improving its safety record

Easy glider

Sunday morning in Rochdale and the early sun is trying to melt the empty car park outside the Tesco supermarket. A small group of student hang-glider pilots - local lads of several sizes and shapes and walks of life who share a Daedalus urge - waits for its chief flying instructor to turn up.

Car roof-racks are loaded with the bright cocoons of furled aircraft that overlap bonnet and boot. Tony Delaney arrives. He is a wiry, fair-haired man, with an enthusiasm for leaping off hillsides supported only by a few square feet of billowing sailcloth. He also has the patience and perseverance to pass on that ability safely to others. But not today.

He gives the sky a critical look, sniffs the air and looks pessimistic. Not a breath of breeze is stirring in the centre of Rochdale. "Sorry lads, flying's off today. There's no lift," he announces. No one protests. They accept that without a reasonable rush of air, trying to hang-glide is as pointless as sliding down a sand dune.

The others disperse, but I stay for my first lesson in the car park. Mr. Delaney and his assistant, who is about to train us as a fighter pilot in the RAF, rig up what resembles an aluminium gibbet. I slip on a harness of straps, lift my legs and dangle there.

Tony Delaney directs my hands to a large aluminium triangle on the simulator and describes how I should shift my weight from side to side to make the glider turn. "Look ahead," he insists, and I fix my sights sternly on a shrub 40ft away. I try to imagine myself prone beneath the elegant sweep of a delta wing with the world swirling beneath me, but it is difficult.

The Northern School of Hang-Gliding normally teaches its pupils on Lobstone Moor, a few miles out of town. Tony Delaney's opinion about flying conditions was confirmed when we got there. A pupil from the school waited at the bottom of the hill disconsolately. It was a hopeless day, he said. He had made a couple of flights but had come down the hill like a rock. "I gave up because the fracture in my foot is not properly healed yet."

A hang-gliding accident? Not really. He had found juggling his folded machine to the hilltop such hard work that he had taken up jogging to get fit. He was out jogging when he tripped up and broke his foot.

He insisted that hang-gliding was a perfectly safe sport - even the insurance companies now accepted that as a fact, and they were shrewd judges.

Even so, I asked, the human leg was surely never designed to double as an aircraft undercarriage? Nonsense, had I ever seen a bird with fat legs? The secret was to land with such gentleness that the strain would be no more than stepping off a slow-moving bus.

Gerry Breen, one of the foremost hang-gliding and light aviation pioneers in Britain, admitted that there was a danger in the early days of the sport but times had changed. He remembered launching himself off hillsides strapped to the most chilling contraptions made from bamboo, string, polythene and Sellotape. Hang-gliders were now highly developed aircraft, stable and rugged despite their looks. They could ride the wind securely and climb to 8,000 ft or more.

Eventually, when the wind pipes up on Lobstone Moor, I will continue my training with a thorough briefing in aerodynamics, and the theory of how these delta-shaped aircraft, an early spin-off from the American space programme, actually fly. I will be taught how to rig the glider and allowed to make a few tentative hops off the ground.

From there a student progresses to tethered flight. He is strapped to the glider, which is flown like a kite with three control ropes held by instructors on the ground. The trainee learns the subtleties of controlling the machine until the wing-tether is removed to allow more rope. Finally the machine is freed for the first solo flight.

Hang-gliders are directed and controlled as the pilot shifts his body weight relative to the wing. Tony Delaney said: "The best way is to imagine that the aircraft is an extension of your body. With practice the amount of control becomes very precise."

It makes free flying safe and feasible even in a country crowded with rooftops and tall trees, glasshouses and thorn hedges, air-space restrictions and volatile weather.

People of reasonable nerve, balance and coordination who keenly want to fly are usually untethered and making their first downhill solo after three days' training, although gusty weather can cause delay. Within five days the student may have qualified as a "Pilot One", fledged but with a lot to learn.

Tony Delaney says: "We may lose contact at that point. All students are obliged to become members of the British Hang-Gliding Association (BHGA).

and when they leave the training school they usually join their local club. They fly on their local hills under the guidance of their club training officer."

There are some crucial manoeuvres to master. The circle turn is often a sensitive one. Flying into the wind a hang-glider is relatively easy to control, but downwind the aircraft accelerates and loses altitude rapidly.

Further progress extends to ridge soaring, riding the thrust of air as it strikes the edge of a hill, or circling in the bubbles of warm air that form thermals for extended flights. Finally, there is the challenge of cross-country flying, feasible on high-performance machines. The British record set last year by Robert Calvert of Preston is around 112 miles.

There are some 3,500 hang-glider pilots in Britain, a small minority of whom take part in the international circuit of competitions. These are the ultimate challenge in the sport, and British pilots have won a dominating position in spite of Britain's relatively low hills and restricted air space.

It is easy to accept that hang-gliding is an exhilarating sport and the closest to true flying, but is the risk justified? According to Mr Barry Blore, principal executive officer of the BHGA, as an adventure sport

hang-gliding is less risky than any other. In the last two years there have been five fatal accidents. Five years ago, with half the number of pilots spending less time in the air, 18 people died in a year.

The agreement between the BHGA and the manufacturers of hang-gliders to sell aircraft only to the holders of pilot certificates is not legally binding but is strictly followed. According to the BHGA, 95 per cent of hang-gliding accidents can be attributed to pilot error. The most vulnerable pilots appear to be those who have qualified as Pilot Ones then joined a club where the training facilities are less well organized.

The most dangerous point occurs when a pilot allows his aircraft to go too slowly when the wind is blowing from behind. The hang-glider speeds up rapidly over the ground, but the actual rush of air over the wings may not be enough to keep the aircraft aloft. A downwind stall then happens, and if the aircraft is less than 100ft from the ground, recovery is impossible. A crash is inevitable.

There are very few cases on record in recent years of aircraft failure. Two accidents have happened which were caused by premature deployment of a parachute designed to bring both pilot and machine safely to earth if the hang-glider should

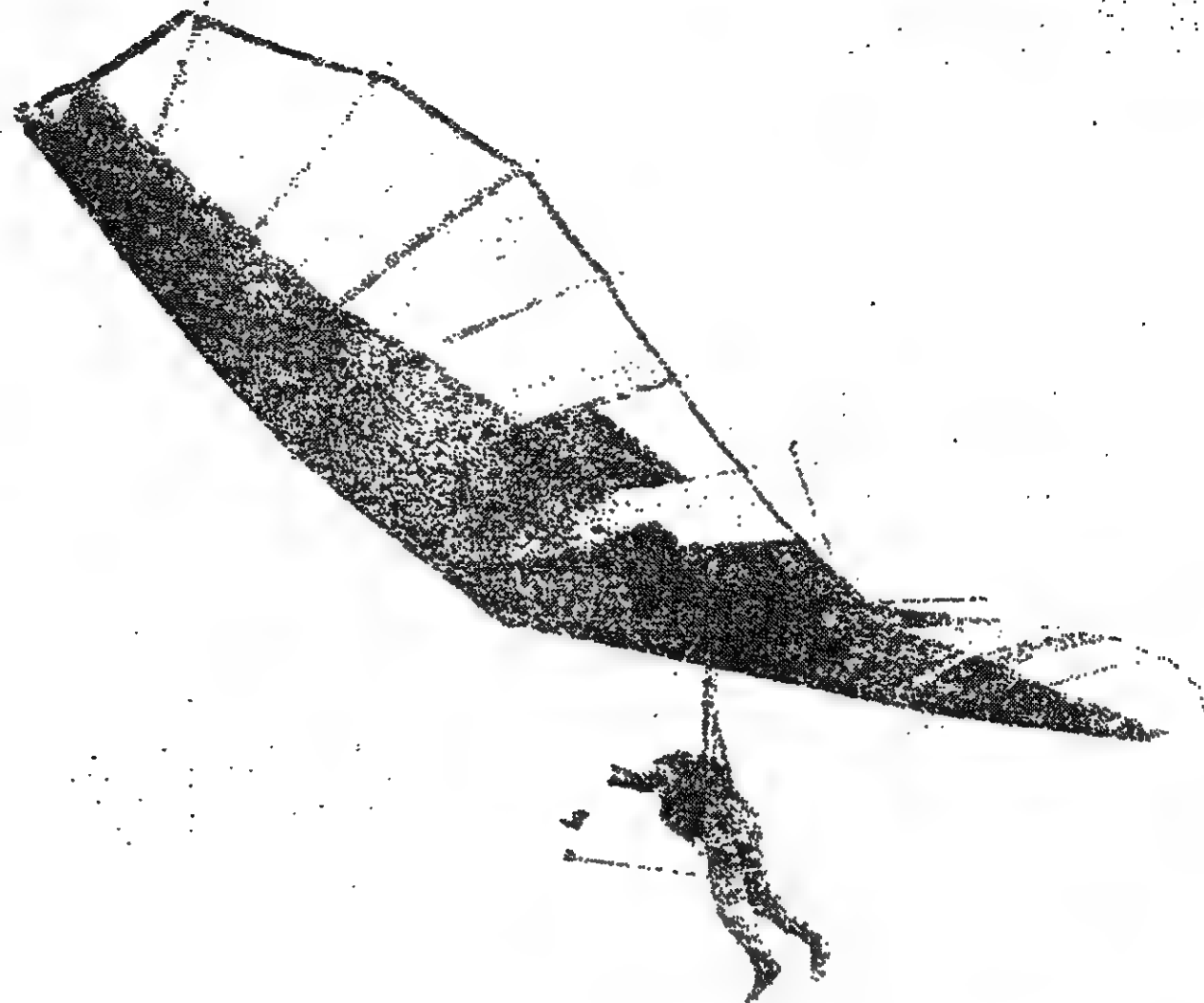
be damaged by collision or extreme turbulence. Altogether 133 incidents were reported last year to the BHGA, in which no one was seriously injured. Only 17 happened at flying training centres, and more than half were from hitting trees, walls, hang-gliders on the ground and a telegraph pole as the pilot came in to land.

Improvements in training and aircraft design have reached a point where hang-gliding is more than acceptably safe: it is the most rewarding and easily the cheapest form of flying. "That accepted, there is clearly some risk," Mr Blore said. "If there wasn't, nobody would bother to do it."

The governing body of the sport, the British Hang-Gliding Association, is at 157A Cheddton Road, Taunton, Somerset (0823 88140). The Association provides a list of the 22 approved training centres which organize courses in Britain.

The Northern School of Hang-Gliding is at 65 Highbury Avenue, Irian, Manchester (061775 4422). The school offers five-day courses, £15 a day for students and the unemployed, otherwise £22.50 per weekend and £25 each Saturday and Sunday. Aircraft and kit are provided. Secondhand machines suitable for a beginner will cost from £250. A new top performance hang-glider will cost up to £1,000. An excellent practical guide to the sport is given in *Hang Gliding Pilot* by Ann Welch and Gerry Breen (John Murray, London), £4.50.

Up on the Downs with the wind in their favour: Members of the Southern Hang-Gliding Club hang fast and loose on their flights at Frl Beacon in Kent



Hang-glider: Gill Pyrah

Woman in the sky with no hang-ups

It was a short film I saw that started it, as I remember. Wobbly shots from a camera strapped to the frame of a hang-glider recorded every lift and swoop and breathtaking turn over tree tops and along mountain ridges. It was an old film and the unrefined hang-gliders - kites was their familiar name then - could do little more than fly down from a hill.

Even so, I had to do it. Now, I'm not sporty. Team games always left me cold - or far too hot. In the summer, tennis courts were for lounging round in whites, with streaky, tan-painted legs. Girlfriends could beat me easily. That was ignominy enough. But boys had the unfair advantage of build, and I could find no pleasure in giving them the chance to prove me inferior. But this hang-gliding looked beautiful.

By luck, we arrived at the Welsh Hang Gliding Centre at Crickhowell on the first good flying day they had had for weeks, so our instructors abandoned the beginners' day of theory and took us straight up the hillside. We struggled to gain control of a contraption which, weighing 60lb or so, was yards wide and flapped wilfully with every passing breath of wind. The wind, that day, became so strong we could tether the gliders to the ground and they flew straight up, like kites.

Gerry Breen (our hero) was bursting to try his brand new glider. The evening wind was strong enough for it to carry two. Being female, so relatively light, the flight was mine. (Don't knock the system when it's with you.)

Green-black storm clouds were orange-lined and rolling away as the sun began to set. We moved to the hillside and simply stepped off. As easy as

that. There was a surge of power as the wing inflated and the nose fought for equilibrium with the head wind. The sudden speed was surprising, exhilarating. I was flying. Adrenaline beamed to the brain. I was as high as a kite.

In the next days I learned - too late to be disenchanted - that it does take strength to carry the thing up a hill, but only until you have picked up the trick of holding the wires and letting it "fly" itself back up. Weakness and laziness were good teachers. The first solo steps and few yards in flight were full of dizzying, unspecific apprehension. But it seemed to me that the men appreciated the chances of broken backs or crushed skulls more than most of the women: only one was too scared to leave the ground.

Indoors, taking lessons in the theory, I cursed past schools. Why didn't I - or the other females - know about air pressure and how it caused a right-shaped wing to fly? We had no vocabulary of vectors or sink and lift or thermals. But in our ignorance, we had no fear of flying.

Jes Flynn, who is at the centre this year, says 50 per cent of the inquiries about courses come from women. Very few book up - only one in two months, this summer. He reckons that only one in 10 women who learn, stick with the sport: perhaps one in five men

do. Pressed to give an explanation for the discrepancies, Jes answered: money, muscle and motor cars. Does he notice any gender difference in attitudes to flying once they are there? "Women", he says, "come along for the aesthetic airy freedom side of things. Guys tend to be more into the gang-no Red Baron stuff."

Of the handful of women who are internationally known as hang-glider pilots, Judy Leden is the best in Britain; her fans say the world. She took it up in 1979, and within weeks became so obsessed that she left university to take a job - any job - that would keep her in petrol and gliders. On her first flight, she reports that she giggled all the way down, and for the first few months she knew there would always be a rush of adrenaline. But now, when she spends every weekend flying, it's more low-key and rarely frightening.

In July, Judy beat the both-sex distance record of 139 miles by flying 147 miles in a Californian desert. The record was taken from her the same day, so hers became the "ladies' distance" record. It does not seem to matter. Judy is often the only woman flying from a site, but it is a matter of indifference to her and she thinks, to other fliers. It is not a macho sport; strength is not important, skill is.

Gill Pyrah

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Ivan Barnes recommends that the traveller in Syria ignores the present and rejoices in the past

With open eyes on the road from Damascus

Three hours' drive from Damascus, north-east across the Syrian desert, lies Palmyra. The journey gives interesting glimpses of the desert's occupants. They seem to be of just two categories, both migratory. The Beduin are there with their old, familiar flocks and tents and their modern vehicles. The Syrian army also has modern vehicles and more besides.

The one group tends its sheep, the other its Soviet weaponry, with similar lack of haste and with apparent disinterest. I suspect that I get a sharp picture of today's Syria through that car window as at any time during my week in the country.

Palmyra, the city of the palms, is yesterday's Syria. It is the spectacular ruin of a civilization that reached its peak in the second and third centuries A.D. It was brutally snuffed out by the Romans when its inhabitants, and particularly its ambitious queen, Zenobia, got too big for their sandals.

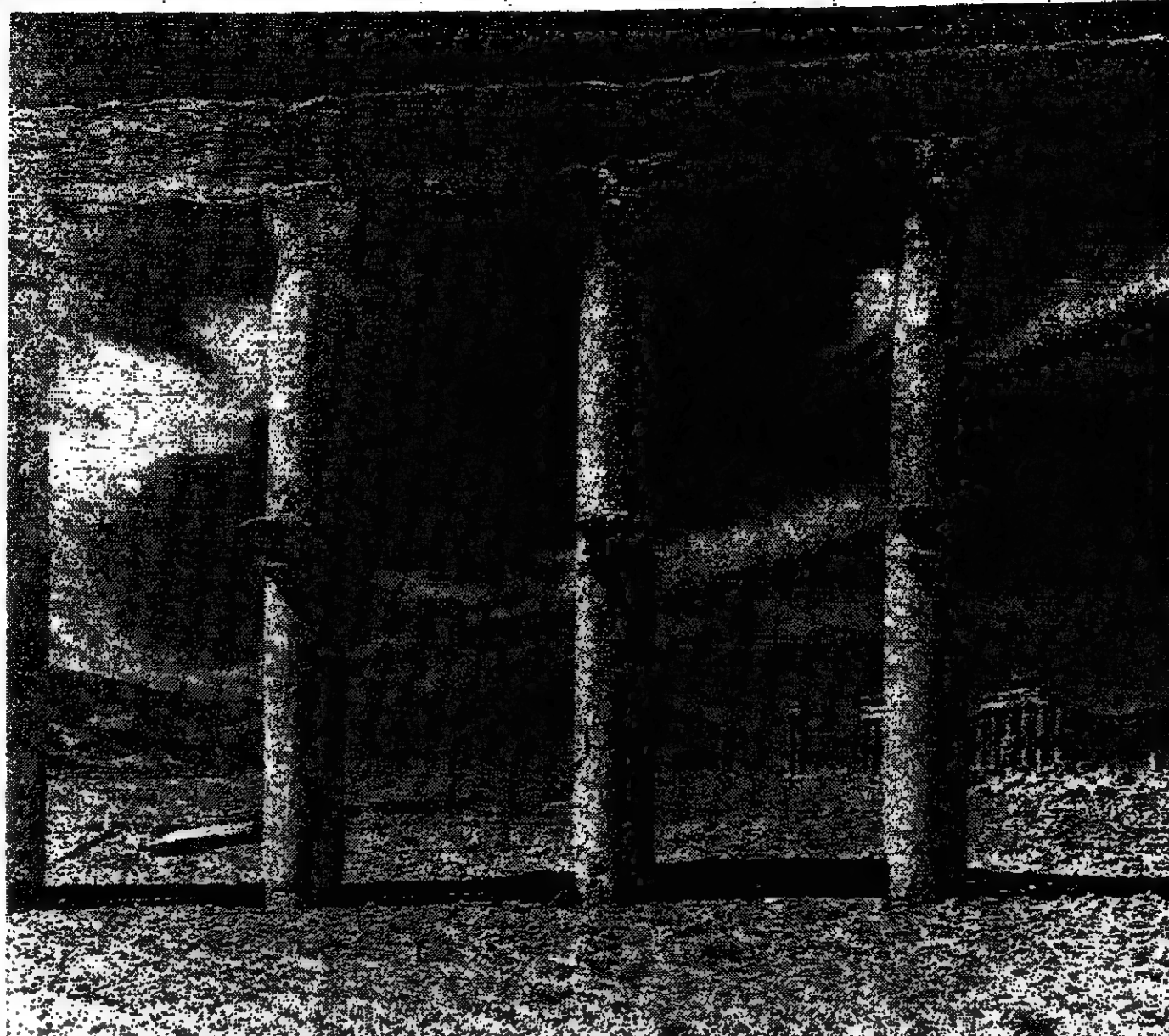
Here, in a hollow in the middle of the desert, is a clear, slightly sulphurous spring, the *Ajqa*. From the spring came an oasis and from the oasis came, eventually, Palmyra. The city prospered because it was an ideal stopping place on the ancient caravan routes. Palmyra's rich merchants owned ships, depicted in carvings here, in the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. The city outlasted its great rival to the south, Petra, in present-day Jordan.

What has so far been uncovered and reconstructed makes a large and impressive site, crammed with colonnades, temples, tombs, a triumphal arch and a beautiful theatre. The time to view the site as a whole is at sunrise or sunset, from the high ground to the west or from amid the ruins themselves. The best spot is probably from the hill where stands a seventeenth-century castle, which dominates the area and constantly broods above you as you wander among the sandstone pillars.

There is so much to see that you should not consider staying at Palmyra for less than two nights. That gives the minimum of dawn and dusk to choose from and the minimum of time to sense the fascinations of the place.

My group visited Palmyra's museum, interesting enough in itself but made more so by a chat with Khaled Assad, its director. He is 'Palmyran' by birth, jovial and enthusiastic. He brings the whole place to life and relishes the thought that his own town, all those centuries ago, for a moment could claim to be the richest city in the world.

A large area of the site has yet to be excavated, and it was fascinating to watch the director handling, explaining and speculating upon some artefact that had been unearthed that very morning. Syria is said to contain some 3,000 historic sites. They are not all Palmyras, but I do not argue with the



Underneath the arches: Classical pillars frame the seventeenth-century Turkish castle at Palmyra, 'City of Palms' once a prosperous oasis; Bab-At-Makham gateway in Aleppo (top right)

figure. There are certainly enough to satisfy every taste.

The one that lured me there above all others, though, was Krak des Chevaliers, the monster Crusader castle guarding the Homs gap - the route from the coast to the hinterland. Ever since I visited my first castle in Britain and heard of the Krak I felt that I must see it.

As one of the wonders of the world of military architecture (and as a modest youthful ambition fulfilled) it was not disappointing. But though its curators have done much to make the Krak accessible, much remains to be done. It is not easy to find your way around or to understand this place in a brief visit with the literature, and guides that may be available on the spot. With the

Krak, as with so much in Syria, it is advisable to plunder one's library and bookshop for background information before setting out.

Damascus is not a city that charmed me, though it does have magnificent sights, notably the Great Omayyad Mosque, built originally from the eighth century but almost completely reconstructed following a succession of earthquakes and fires through the ages. Round the corner from the mosque is Saladin's tomb, restored courtesy of Kaiser Wilhelm II, and both stand in a souk to satisfy the most demanding haggler (particularly one in search of carpets).

The Ministry of Tourism is making a great effort to increase the number of western visitors

to Syria. Clearly this is not an easy task. Most westerners would not even begin to think of the place for a holiday because of what they read in their newspapers.

So why consider Syria? Not for the food, I think. Of my small sample, a group of six, four suffered stomach upsets, though admittedly these may have been brought on not so much from eating as from watching our driver consume a barbecued ram at lunch. (Being one of the lucky - or careful - pair, I did not take this problem too seriously. It is important to retain a sense of humour.)

Nor for the beaches. There is a stretch around Latakia that is quite respectable, but the

Mediterranean is more inviting elsewhere.

What attract are the Krak and the other 2,999 places where you feel that you can choose to touch briefly virtually any part of the past. Syria appeals to travellers rather than to tourists. Yet it is probably better to tour than to travel alone, if for no other reasons than that self-drive car hire is almost nonexistent and that an escort almost certainly saves considerable trouble at the numerous security checkpoints.

To holiday in Syria, then, one needs to be searching for the past. To have a really pleasant time it is better to be ignorant of, or to ignore, the present.

The perceived danger is, as these things usually are, particularly relevant. The only

people in Syria who are routinely in danger, for example, from the government are the Syrians themselves - and some Palestinians, of course - certainly not holiday-makers dreaming of the past.

Gaze at the *novas*, the giant water wheels on the Orontes at Hama and wonder - but not about the thousands, perhaps as many as 10,000, who died there when the rebellion was put down 18 months ago. Reflect upon Aleppo from its spectacular citadel - but not upon the scores who died there in the 1980 revolt. Look through the car window for the Bedu and his flock - but not for the soldier and his surface-to-air missile.

Ah, Zenobia, what progress we have made.

Visa: required in advance for individual travellers or groups of fewer than 10 people. Your travel agent will normally be able to arrange for a visa quite quickly. Vaccination: protection recommended against typhoid, cholera and polio. Agencies: the following companies, operating tours, often combining Syria with other countries: Jashin Tours, High Street, Cockburn, Maidment Road, Bournemouth (02025 23444), run a 14-day escorted tour, Syria only, from about £280. Fairways and Swinford, 37 Abbey Road, St John's Wood, London NW8 (024 9326). Sales Tours, Sales House, Barmington Road, Dorking, Surrey (0306 885991). Swan Helpline, 237-288 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1 (066 8670).

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Beating the blues in balmy Barbados

It's carnival time in Notting Hill this weekend (see page 3), so when better to see how it's done in the Caribbean?

If you know what the Red Plastic Bag and the Mighty Sparrow have in common, then you have probably been down to the Caribbean at carnival time. They are both Calypso Kings. But even the most ardent fan of West Indian culture might be stumped by the first name, as he comes from Barbados, not Trinidad - the home of the calypso.

Barbados, the most English and, many would argue, the most civilized of the Caribbean Islands, is carefully nurturing local talent. The Ministry of Information and Culture has been busily promoting a summer festival based on an old slave holiday called "Crop Over" - a more homely, less the sugar cane harvest.

This will not, of course, attempt to rival Trinidad's famous carnival, which, aficionados claim, beats Rio. "Crop Over" is a more homely, less frenetic occasion offering a variety of events: a street market, a concert of folk songs and dancing, costume bands parading through the streets, Trinidad-style, and a calypso contest.

The tourist board hopes it will help fill hotels and airlines in the leaner summer months in the years to come, but the Ministry of Information and Culture is attempting to base its roots firmly in the community first, so that people benefit throughout the year. Elton Mottley the Director of Culture, is planning several smaller festivals of drama, dance, music and jazz over the next six months which will make Barbados not only more attractive to



Carnival sunshine in Trinidad

visitors, but a more interesting place to live in.

This year's "Crop Over" proved very popular with the locals. 12,000 tickets were snapped up for the calypso final as soon as they went on sale. But rain stopped play. They tried again two days later. Things went swimmingly until the interval when the red plastic bags and balloons, waved in honour of last year's king, were suddenly replaced by umbrellas.

Trinidad's carnival is less vulnerable to the elements, as this moveable two-day feast just before Ash Wednesday falls in the drier winter months. This year's was said to be the one-hundredth anniversary of Carnival; others said it was more like its two-hundredth. No matter, it gets bigger and more commercial every year, sending the price of hotels and taxis skyrocketing.

But it is fun if you have the stamina. For the tourist it is a long, car-drum-pounding, sleep-starved, kaleidoscope-coloured, smashed-out-of-mind, weekend. For the locals it is much, much more. Critics of this bacchanalia claim that it paralyzes the minds of the population and the economy of the country for the whole year. For "playing Mas" (dressing up and joining thou-

sands of others in street processions) generates a thriving industry.

It is not just the hot polloi and the tourists who buy costumes to disguise themselves as flowers in the rain forest, frogs, Babylonian soldiers, handmaidens to Cleopatra or butterflies, but also respectable lawyers, teachers and politicians. Carnival takes a grip of the lives of most Trinidadians well before Christmas. The calypsonians vie with each other for the "crown", "jump-ups" (dances) and fetes (parties) occupy the weekends and costumes must be chosen.

In Barbados they are much too conscientious, hard working and perhaps, well, a little too staid to go in for such extremes, and we should be thankful. Port of Spain can, in that long weekend, be magic. The visitor can easily forget the frustrations of things like the telephone, water and electricity, as well as people, not working. To be fair, the locals know how bad it is and laugh at their problems. Sparrow sings, "We like it so", and adds, "We are free."

But after Carnival, it is wonderful to escape to Barbados - a 45-minute hop. Back to dear old "Bimshire" with its orderly ways, reliable services

and excellent hotels. Unfortunately, Tobago - the other bit of the state of Trinidad and Tobago, a mere 20 minutes away - suffers from the same problems as the mainland. These can put the blight on the most wonderful white beaches, limpid ocean and the spectacular coral reef of what is said to be Robinson Crusoe's island.

Barbados might not take its pleasure as seriously as Trinidad, but it does take its economy seriously, and it is just too much to ask for both.

Diane Spencer

Caribbean Airways: The national airline of Barbados now uses British Caledonian as its carrier. I can recommend the standard of service and comfort on this eight-hour flight. Apex tickets July-December £424; January-April £382; May-June £316; Return fare from Barbados to Trinidad is around £73.

Hotels in Barbados: Sandy Beach, on the south coast, and Treasure Beach on the quieter St James coast, both apartment hotels with good restaurants and services, offer the best of both worlds. Prices, always quoted in US dollars, start around \$60 a day. There are cheaper places and many firms do packages.

Hotels in Trinidad: Apart from the Hilton and the Holiday Inn at either



Not just a bacchanalian weekend, more a way of life

end of Port of Spain, it does not have much to offer. Try to stay with friends.

Food and Drink: Not a gastronomic paradise, but good fish and spicy soups and stews in both islands. The roti - a kind of pan-fried stuffed with meat or fish mixtures - tends to be better in Trinidad, as is the fruit. Barbados boasts of the best rum in the Caribbean, and rightly so.

The House of the Moon
For a full list of the original and most interesting events on the Barbados festival, see the very best of the Caribbean. Individual tickets available to suit individual budgets. Write to: The House of the Moon, 100, The Strand, London WC2R 0EX. Tel: 01-583 8879.

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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Never too old for the open road or fairytale castles



Way to the heart of France: Through the Loire and gains like the Château de Chenonceau

"You will want to see the birthplace of Rabelais", she said, sweeping round a jugged-nose. Not that we had much choice, with our rucksacks already stacked under the bonnet of her VW and the three of us beeping along the road from Chinon to Saumur. It was, she said, only a few kilometres out of our way. "I will take you."

So there we were at La Devinère, a fifteenth-century cottage festooned with drawings, maps, curling photographs and illustrations of Rabelaisian characters. A fortune, certainly, but not, perhaps the birthplace. Rabelais was born between 1483 and 1494, at a time when custom obliged expectant bourgeois women to set off for their country houses the moment labour began. If one can believe *Gargantua* - more or less his autobiography - Madame Rabelais brought the great man into the world somewhere along the road we had just travelled, probably soon after a vicious bump.

Outside, Marie, our benefactress, waited patiently, smoking Dunhills. You are thirsty perhaps? Come, we will have a drink *chez moi*.

Then, in her eighteenth-century kitchen, its long walls encrusted with fine-art posters, we were introduced to her daughter and to the local *rouge*, poured from an unlabelled bottle. Marie was a teacher at a lycée in Chinon. Like us, she had seen the stunning *Manet* exhibition in Paris. We compared posters (hers, she explained, were to cover cracks in the plaster). We must come and stay, any time. There were many unused rooms.

Returning to the main road, we were shown the schoolhouse of Rabelais, and admired what may be the last fortified farmhouse in the Loire. Then a tedious half-hour by the road, a side while the French, with an impressive display of body language, gesticulated their reasons for not giving us a lift. Finally we made it to Saumur, where we were horribly cheated at a tourist café.

"I love France, but I hate the French", an English emigrant told us in Paris. "They're mean-minded and they'll cheat you when they can." Like most generalizations, it told us more about its author than its subject. In the Loire, the heart of France, we found much kindness: information offered, maps

given free, a five-mile diversion to take us to a camp site. For these small mercies I was grateful, for it had been many years since I had hitch-hiked. The call of the open road had grown faint. But mortgage bank loans and the cost of taking a car across the Channel combined to rule out a foreign holiday, or so it seemed. Cunningly, my wife and I caught a bus to Paris (£28 return) and thwarted the forces of stringency. From there we took a train to Chartres, and from there we stuck out our thumbs. We reckoned that by hitching and camping we could eat and drink our fill for a week and still return with change from £100. Only the lure of the duty-free shop defeated us.

And, of course, there is simply nothing to be eaten in France. The sensitivity of service, the smiling *bon appetit*, the crusty bread, the prices... For 48¢ in La Cafetière in Vendôme - and picture a quiet garden in July on the banks of the Loire (not to be confused with its grander sister) - and 10 candlelit tables as dusk falls - I had lapin à la maitre (wonderfully stuffed), a salad mixed as only the French can mix them, a home-made sorbet.

At midnight we strolled happily back to the municipal camping site in which Vendôme, like most French towns, takes such pride. In front of our tent stood a Gallic figure in pyjamas, shining a torch into the river.

"Qu'est-ce que vous cherchez, monsieur?" He answered not, but pointed to the shallows where small fish wriggled, mesmerized by the glare. With a net, he would have been a poacher, but he was just a curious amateur naturalist. And so to bed, we to our £24 Korean tent, he to his caravan, to watch his colour television, for the French take camping seriously. Their tents are mar-

ques. Their barbecues are Le Creuset. Sometimes they have nameplates stuck in the ground: *Mon Repose*. Vendôme is a pretty town, built on an island, with steep stone roofs and small streets interspersed with hump-backed bridges over rivulets; yet it is off the tourist track and we heard not one English voice there. The glories of the town are its flamboyant abbey church and its twelfth-century belfry; they are said to have inspired the two contrasting towers at Chartres.

Balzac went to school there and left because of poor health. My grandmother, too, was born and raised there; she left for an Englishman. In a café we met three old men who remembered her, and solemnly shook hands, French fashion.

From there to Blois, where a doughty lady picked out the English at the chateau gate by their shoes and socks, and bloodcurdled us round the almost empty rooms (the French court tended to take their furniture with them; I suspect it all landed up in Versailles). Here we heard the terrible tale of the Duc de Guise, all France behind him, pressing King Henri to return to the true faith. The King stood here, behind the curtain. Two rooms away, his men waited to stab the duke, who fell, mortally wounded at the King's feet, here. And now to the bedroom of...

From Blois, courtesy of a silent farmer who played Handel on his car cassette as we followed the meandering Loire, to Azy-le-Rideau, a tiny town but boasting a fairytale chateau: a Renaissance gem, the guide book said. The town keeps it well hidden, unless you pay. Like Blois, its facade is its fortune. It is screened by the trees of the Indre, which like the Vienne, Cher and Loire, feeds

the big river as it slugs along to the Bay of Biscay.

The villages on these tributaries are the region's charm, and Azy is no exception, with winding streets, water wheels, an eleventh-century church. We camped by the river.

Next day, from a *dégustation* (wine-tasting) in a converted garage, we chose a medium dry local white (13¢); from a *charcuterie*, fresh salmon and Muscadet, pâté and rillettes (strands of soft poached pork); a *Touraine* speciality.

We climbed past kitchen gardens, along roads lined with sweet and horse chestnut and ripening walnut, their verges a profusion of vetch, lords-and-ladies, cornflower and poppies (little pollution here), and we tasted.

Coming back we passed a troglodyte dwelling, carved from the soft tufa bequeathed by the retreating sea to the masses and mushroom-growers of the Loire. Everywhere we look there are caves. People digging *sous le mur* in Saumur gave the town not only its name, but also a handy place to make and store its wine.

The troglodyte dwelling - three small caves, and the washing hanging outside - warranted a picture, but the click of the instant camera on a silent afternoon produced a troglodyte dog which saw us back to Azy at a trot. There, the thunderstorms which killed seven campers that week were gathering rank.

When they came, they timed it well. The *son et lumière* at the moated chateau, a tantalizing river's bend from our tent, nearly threw us. And we were listening entranced to the lutes, harps and choirs when the first lightning flashed. We thought it was part of the show.

The *son et lumière* that followed was real enough, and lasted all night. The thunder shook the ground and we were terrified to touch the metal tent poles. Despite the skills of the Koreans, and the assurances of the shop assistant, the rain filtered through the nylon and dripped upon us.

I was struck by a thought. "I think," I said, "that I might be getting too old for all this."

"There's a bottle of red in my rucksack," said Susan.

In the Loire, they have nature balanced very nicely.

Peter Brown

Both Michelin and Let's publish camping guides to France. Neither is comprehensive, but they take up rucksack room. Better to arrive at a town and ask for a site - no need to book if you only have a tent. For general information, see the Michelin Guide Vert, *Châteaux de la Loire* excellent. For eating out try *Le Guide Michelin* for light reading, *Le Grand Muesnier* by Alain-Fournier (Penguin, £1.50), set in the Loire.

Travel notes

How to get there by rail, from Victoria, 288 second-class return. Excursion fare £75.80 for minimum stay of five days plus restrictions on trains used. From Paris the journey takes about five hours, using the TEE to Strasbourg and then changing to the Colmar line. By air, Heathrow to Strasbourg using Air France, then by train. The airport at Strasbourg is busy, sparkling, but the duty-free limited.

John Higgins

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Travel notes

Medalling in modern art and history

The medallion has suffered from a bad reputation for almost 20 years. The pieces issued in their masses by some of the commercial producers have often shown scant regard to any pretence of artistic achievement.

Medals are such collectable items - but they are also for handing and carrying. Now the British Art Medal Society offers a limited number of artistic cast bronze medals for sale to its members. The society aims to encourage and promote the work of modern medallists and to see that the medal is more readily accepted as an art form. Members are asked to suggest both themes and medallists, though the society's council has the final word. It is hoped that the society will soon be in a strong enough position to advise institutions or individuals how to commission a medal. It hopes, too, that it will soon be able to sponsor an annual medal competition.

The society is already collaborating with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations in organizing a competition for British artists to produce a medal to celebrate World Food Day on October 16, 1983. For artists members there will be forums to discuss the problems of medal making, and it is hoped that there will be exhibitions of the work commissioned.

The British Art Medal Society held its inaugural meeting in April 1982, and it is now firmly established. In its first year the society commissioned eight medals, and members are obliged to purchase just one each from the annual election. Details of the medals are published and illustrated in a lively bi-annual journal, *The Medal*. There are no restrictions on membership and the individual subscription is £10 a year (corporate members £30). All the medals are sold at the same, eminently collectable price of £22, regardless of the medallist.

So far the small membership has identified its commitment to purchase over the full range available. The most heavily

subscribed medal is one by Ron Dutton, which commemorates the founding of the society, and so far 32 have been sold. The society does not pretend to be in the business of mass-marketing. Nearly all of its bronze medals are cast to order and are truly limited editions.

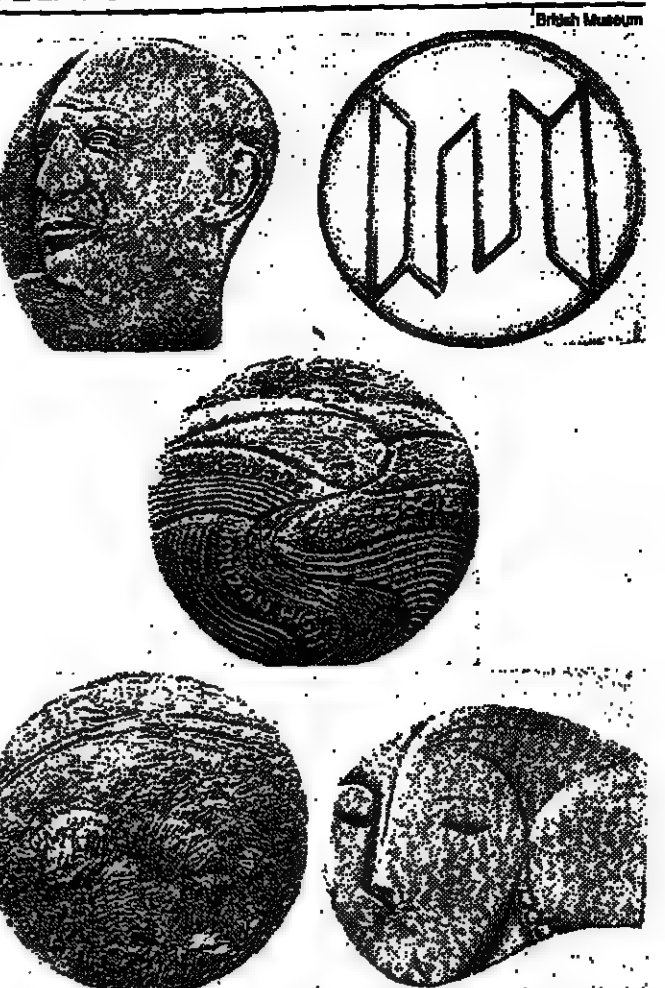
The first eight medals issued illustrate clearly how wide a variation of style, texture and art can be accommodated on a small two-sided piece of bronze. Ron Dutton's medal shows sheep grazing in open moorland, while the reverse dedication to the society follows the plough furrows of an English country scene. Mark Holloway has produced a Muse, a double-sided head, using its own outline as the shape and edge of the medal, while Annabel Eley's carnival theme uses a crowded group of faces for an irregular outline.

Jane McAdam has used much the same restrictions with regard to shape on her portrait medal: Picasso's profile on the obverse forms the reverse outline of a modernist head in the style of Picasso.

Jacqueline Steiger's medal, "Food Furrows", is a wonderfully tactile piece, with deep furrows stretching outwards from a central spine to the edge of the uneven roundish flan. Two medallists, Nigel Hall and John Main, have designed non-representative pieces. Nigel Hall's medal adds a new dimension by being totally openwork, but both make bold use of line and depth.

Finally, Robert Elderton offers a more traditional commemorative medal of the heroine Grace Darling. On the obverse she is shown full face, while on the reverse she and her father row their small cobbler towards the sinking Forlshire. The raging storm is emphasized by the great depth of the relief, the legend, such as it is, follows the lines of the wind and waves on the reverse.

The standard of all the medals is amazingly high. The society has obviously crossed its first hurdle by showing a serious involvement with artists, en-



Striking examples: Jane McAdam's Picasso (top left) with reverse (bottom right); Nigel Hall's openwork bronze medal (top right); Ron Dutton's Sheep Moor II (bottom left) with reverse (centre)

couraging them to discover the medal as a medium of expression which has for so many years been overlooked in this country.

The British Art Medal Society has as its chairman Mr Graham Pollard, deputy director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, and catalogue of the Renaissance medals in the Kress Collection in Washington. It has the strong support of the Royal Society of Arts and the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, and Wolverhampton Polytechnic prints its journal.

There is no government sponsorship as in France and, curiously, Poland. Sadly this means that the society cannot afford to give examples of the

medals to any national or university museum, though medallists must welcome the freedom of working without the restrictions of officialdom.

Daniel Fearon

Those seeking further information or wishing to join the society should contact Mr Mark Jones, the assistant keeper of the Department of Coins and Medals at the British Museum, who organized the splendid 1978 exhibition, *The Medal - Mirror of History*, and is author of the companion book, *The Art of the Medal* (British Museum Publications, price £9.95). The address to write to is: Mr Mark Jones, Dept of Coins and Medals, The British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1.

EATING OUT

Out for a duck or at least a chicken Kiev

The cricket season is reaching its climax with two finals at Lord's this weekend: the national club championship today and the village cricket final tomorrow. With the outcome of the NatWest trophy also to be decided there next Saturday, we consider two restaurants in the area which might be suitable for post-match celebrations or commiserations.

AU BOIS ST JEAN
122 St John's Wood High Street, London NW8 (722 0400)
Open Sun-Fri noon-2.30pm; daily 7-11.30pm
A straight Botham six over the Nursery End would probably drop on the doorstep of Au Bois St Jean, so it couldn't be more convenient, and the extensive opening times are particularly useful for those dusk finishes

which Lord's seems to specialise in. The restaurant's basement premises are on the gloomy side but they have made a virtue of this by constructing a sort of rustic Dordogne-barn interior which gives it both charm and atmosphere. Another French adoption is the *prix fixe* menu with two courses costing £6.50 at lunchtime and £8 in the evening, while the three-course selection is £8 for a lunch, £9.50 for a dinner.

There is a good and varied range of hors d'oeuvres embracing the simple terrine de montagne (rough Languedoc pâté with garlic and whole peppercorns) and the unusual *avocat à la Cannoise*. This is a hot mixture of avocado, crevettes, mushrooms and tomatoes with a dash of pastis which will, depending on your taste, either ruin the dish or make it.

The main courses include French country favourites such as *carré d'agneau*, and there is identity of the first place. It has a connexion with *The Times*.

How to enter
Collect all three maps (August 20, today, September 3) and send them in to the address given as soon as possible after the last competition ends. The first correct entry opened will win the first prize.

How to play
Our summer competition started last week and there's one more week to go after today. So don't miss next week's Saturday edition.

A small section of one of the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map series of a place in the United Kingdom mentioned in *The Times* in the past 10 days is reproduced here.

All you have to do is identify the place which has been blacked out. Other names nearby have been masked in grey to make the contest more difficult. Fill in

the blacked out name on the dotted line below the map.

Just in case you missed the first map last week, we have reproduced it below. And here's a clue to help you to identify the first place: it has a connexion with *The Times*.

There is a good and varied range of hors d'oeuvres embracing the simple terrine de montagne (rough Languedoc pâté with garlic and whole peppercorns) and the unusual *avocat à la Cannoise*. This is a hot mixture of avocado, crevettes, mushrooms and tomatoes with a dash of pastis which will, depending on your taste, either ruin the dish or make it.

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chevalière is not quite so successful, being rather swamped with diced onion.

However, the desserts are delicious, with a storming *tarte tatin* (apple-pie, pan-cooked upside down), and a denture-shattering *crème de cognac brûlée aux amandes* - take along your 3lb bat to deal with this one. House wine is a pleasant blanc de blancs at £4.95.

BARACCA RESTAURANT
3 Cranes Road, London NW8 (722 9803) Open Tues-Sun noon-3pm, 6pm-11.30pm (11pm Sun)
While the Au Bois St Jean offers a discreet French ambience, the Baracca trades in rather more strident Italian style. The décor also has a rustic hue with rough plaster walls and a wooden superstructure, but the garish lighting and the presence of a pianist and synthesized drum-machine quickly shatter any rural illusion.

The menu is large, about 3ft by 2ft to be exact, and deals in standard Italian and other Continental clichés (beef Stroga-

soff £5.30, T-bone steak £6.50). Starters seem fairly unexciting, but the house minestrone (80p) was packed full of fresh vegetables, while among the pasta alternatives, fettucine all 'Alfredo' with a delicious white sauce and strongly flavoured with black pepper, was equally successful.

The most popular main course is chicken Kiev - I counted at least 10 of them around me - but you can assert your individuality with a good calf's liver *Lyonnaise* (liver and onions, £4.50) or a supreme of chicken princess (3.60).

The sweet trolley is more like the heavy roller, weighed down as it is with cakes, pastries and gateaux, but if the waiter directs you to a rather creamy-looking concoction, framed by flaky pastry, "run one" because it is excellent.

While the food seems honest despite its unadventurous nature, the Baracca struck me as a place to go to in a group - a cricket team perhaps?

Stan Hey

Brief encounter with an agreeable Alsatian

From the British point of view the advantage of Colmar is that it is on the Victoria line. The cross-Channel rail connection with the 10.30am boat train from Victoria stops at Colmar before rushing off to central Europe. The disadvantage is that in the summer it arrives at 22 minutes after midnight. But never mind, Colmar's grandest hotel, the *Terminus-Bristol*, is right opposite the station entrance and there is no need to fret about taxis.

The next morning, consnoisseurs of railway architecture will note that Colmar's station is one of the finest examples of its kind, complete with clock tower and apple green roof. Even the *buffet de la gare* is worth a look. It is vast for a town of this size, with anterooms off the main restaurant, whose high ceiling comes in a different shade of green, lavatorial this time. Waiters doze, passengers eat, reasonably if not exceptionally. It is the ideal setting for a Gallic *Brief Encounter*.

The recommendation, though, for those using Colmar as a base for a few days in Alsace is to stay at the *Champs de Mars*. From the outside it has no charm, but it is in a park, the welcome is warm although the restaurant poor, and the rooms (about £20 for a double) are very well appointed. It is also on the edge of the old city. Cross the Place Rapp, pass a sleek-scaled chip shop called *L'Ami Fritz* (an obscure musical joke, I assume, as the best known opera set in Alsace is Mascagni's *L'Amico Fritz* or *L'Ami Fritz*) and you are there.

Colmar is one of the few Alsatian towns to have emerged virtually unharmed from the last war. The forces of General de Lattre de Tassigny captured it almost intact on February 2, 1945 and that is the way the town council have kept it since. The medieval centre is now almost entirely a pedestrian precinct, with ample displays of *charcuterie* and *foie gras*. In this



WEEKEND BREAKS

part of France, the pig and the goose are the joint gods. Most tourists make for the Unter den Linden Museum - no shortage of German names here - and Grunewald's altarpiece, *le retable d'Issenheim*. But do not forget Colmar's mid-nineteenth century theatre: the sightlines may be poor, but the interior is excellently preserved and there are regular visits from L'Opéra du Rhin based in Strasbourg.



Medieval middle: Colmar's centre untouched by war

This is the tourist Colmar, much visited by coaches from the German side of the Rhine, so avoid bank holidays and especially religious ones when picking your date. The real Colmar is probably found down by the banks of the river in the area called, with a remarkable lack of originality, *Petit Venise*.

The main reason for visiting Alsace is likely to be gastronomic. Both of France's leading guides, Michelin and Gault Millau, need map enlargements for the area between Strasbourg and Belfort. Colmar's best restaurant by several lengths is Schillinger, unimpressive without but seriously elegant within. The service is beyond criticism and the prices are correspondingly on the high side. A Saturday lunch on the *prix fixe* menu with a bottle of '81 Reisinger from Faller (one of the least known but best of the Alsace houses) cost me 300f

(about £25). It was worth it. To eat on a much more modest scale try *La Tampe* down near *Éclit Venise*.

Surprisingly Colmar has very few places offering a *dégustation* of the local wines. To do this properly requires a car - local bus services are terrible - and a trip to the hills. Riquewihr is the obvious place to head for. But I have a soft spot for Ribeauvillé and an even softer one for Kayersberg where the Restaurant Chambard and attached hotel have a growing reputation. Gastronomes are well aware of the longstanding rivalry between Ammerschwihr and Illhaeuschen, with the latter running ahead at the moment both in accolades and prices. But some painters reckon that Chambard is coming up on the outside.

For a report on the wines themselves see Jane MacQuitty's column in *Saturday*, April 30. It is rare to find a bad bottle of Alsace, but I would, because of the high acidity of many varieties, counsel not going for the very cheapest. A couple of months ago one of London's leading wine merchants regretted cutting back the number of Alsaces on his list to two because of "lack of consumer interest". He should organize a trip to Colmar immediately to rectify the situation and slame on the consumers!

John Higgins

Travel notes

How to get there by rail, from Victoria, 288 second-class return. Excursion fare £75.80 for minimum stay of five days plus restrictions on trains used. From Paris the journey takes about five hours, using the TEE to Strasbourg and then changing to the Colmar line. By air, Heathrow to Strasbourg using Air France, then by train. The airport at Strasbourg is busy, sparkling, but the duty-free limited.

John Higgins

THE TIMES WIN-A-CAR COMPETITION

A Ford Sierra for you... and entry is free

How to play
Our summer competition started last week and there's one more week to go after today. So don't miss next week's Saturday edition.

How to enter
Collect all three maps (August 20, today, September 3) and send them in to the address given as soon as possible after the last competition ends. The first correct entry opened will win the first prize.

The prizes
● First prize is a Ford Sierra XR4i with a 2.8 litre V6 engine, a maximum speed of 130 mph and a price of £9,170.
● Twenty runners-up will each receive a copy of the new Ordnance Survey Road Atlas of Great Britain (price £7.95), the comprehensive 1/4 inch to the mile hardback atlas.

The rules
The competition is open to anyone except employees of Times Newspapers Limited and the Ordnance Survey, and their immediate families. The closing date for entries is Monday, September 12. Competitors should enclose a current address and telephone number if possible. The Editor's decision in the competition will be final. The result and the solution will be given in *The Times* on Saturday, September 17. Entries should be sent to *The Times Win-A-Car Competition*, 17 Coley Street, London WC3B 9YT.

WEEK 1

WEEK 2

VALUES

Ronald Faux describes how good hiking equipment can make travelling light a reality

Taking a weight off the backpackers' shoulders

The Italian climber Reinhold Messner, the world's most accomplished solo mountaineer and backpacker, summed up his experience thus: "I move like a snail with my home on my back, moving slowly but always moving." His record is an extreme demonstration of what one man can achieve at an unrelenting pace and by travelling light. He has climbed 10 of the world's 8,000 metre peaks (including two ascents of Everest) always with his home on his back, but at a speed that would leave the fastest snail well behind. There is a great satisfaction, he believes, in being a modern-day, self-contained nomad, exploring wilderness with his roof, bed, kitchen and ladder all packed neatly into one rucksack.

Richard and Adrian Crane, brothers from Keswick, recently ran the full length of the

Himalayas living in ultra-light style, but there are less spectacular ways of enjoying long-distance rambling and being self-sufficient in wild countryside.

Modern materials, ingenious designs and a demanding market have removed much of the early pain from backpacking. You can go to ground or take to the hedgerows in civilized comfort these days. There is no need to suffer the misery of the poorest tent, clothing that soaks up the wet, cooking stoves and tinned foods, boots that are heavy enough to pin down a diver and a rucksack supported on a frame that might have been an instrument of torture.

All that has changed. Scientists and designers with an awareness of ergonomics have improved the whole range of

outdoor equipment so that a walker need waste no energy carrying unnecessary weight. I have never refined weight-watching to the extent of one trekker who saved all his cutlery in half to save an extra ounce. But such careful thought does save energy.

Drenched misery

The final selection of kit is determined by the proposed route. The Pennine Way is an excellent, average high-level hill walk that is long enough and tough enough to demand an economical pack. It is not a route on which a walker can escape from his fellows, but it is surely the most popular long-distance path in Britain. In places a worn, muddy groove in the moors which is getting wider under the pressure of thousands of feet. The first time

I tried it, my ex-Army framed rucksack weighed more than 45lb, and the attempt ended in drenched misery on the moors above Hahiz. The next try, after some severe pruning and careful investment, reduced my load to 25lb of self-sufficiency that Messner himself might have admired, and the fine views were not obscured by blinding rivulets of sweat.

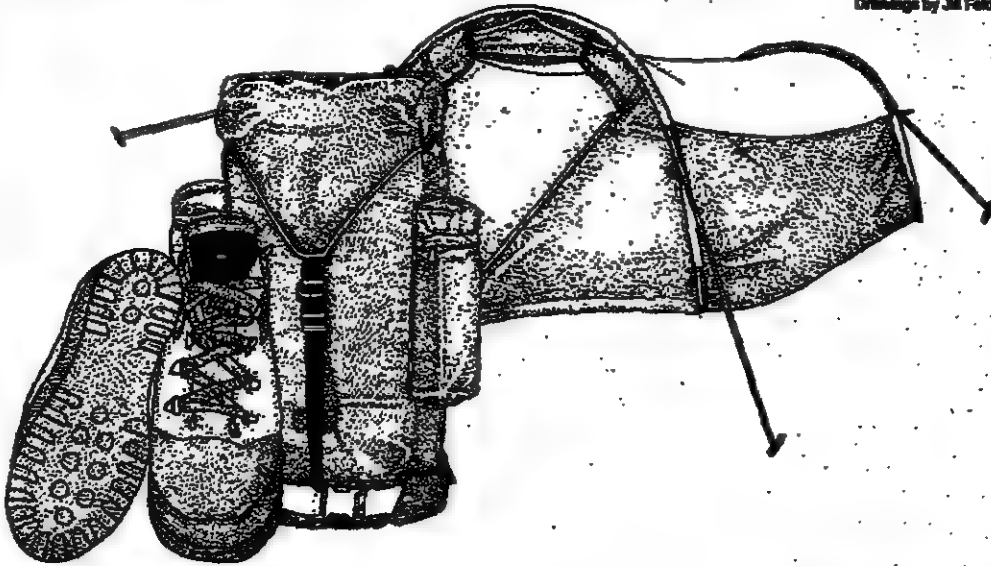
Ordinance Survey maps are essential on the Pennine Way, with a compass to pinpoint the route across difficult sections around Kinder Scout. For the ground between the past "grounds" and inky ooze, walkers should allow themselves the luxury of *Pennine Way Companion* by A. Wainwright (Westminster Gazette, £3.40 approx in dry weight), to lead them past waterfalls that are blown backwards on windy days, and over the "soggy

labyrinth" where Wainwright warned that one should not whoop for joy upon coming across other footprints. "Too often they are no more than the erratic wanderings of some unhappy wanderer as hopelessly lost as yourself."

There are many other cross-country walks in the British countryside, and probably the best collection is described in two books edited by Ken Wilson and Richard Gilbert, called *Classic Walks* and *The Big Walks*, both published by Dacorum at £17.95 and £16.95 respectively.

The range of equipment available is vast and the claims made alluring. My selection below is based on practical experience of walking in the remote parts of England and Scotland, often far away from organized campsites and human contact.

Drawings by Jim Ford



Pod protection

My choice of tent is the Peapod by Ultimate (illustrated here), a rugged, double-skinned, tunnel tent that so far has proved impervious to heavy weather. Fibreglass rods hold the tent in shape and bend to the heavy winds. It packs into a small bag, weighs 3½lbs and sleeps one comfortably, two at a crush. The flysheet entrance extends into a generously sized cooking/wet storage area. The Peapod costs a little less than £100 from Ultimate Equipment, Ryburn Mill, Hanson Lane, Halifax, West Yorkshire (0422 42011). There are lighter tents, including the Phoxhole, an aptly named shelter for the lone walker, made by Phoenix Tents. This small tent is a neat bit of Goretex, the revolutionary material that keeps out water but inhibits condensation by "breathing". The Phoxhole weighs 2½lb and costs £120. Also good value is the Phree-runner at £140.

Go shell

In the changeable British weather there is a great advantage in using what designers now call "shell" clothing - a lightweight, waterproof, outer layer with warmer clothing underneath. I have had excellent service from the Brasher hill suit, made in Goretex by Berghaus. It has a wind and weather-proof jacket and trousers that are light and comfortable to wear, with sensibly sized hood and pockets. Every seam is taped for extra protection. It costs £99.95 from Berghaus, 34 Dean Street, Newcastle on Tyne, Tyne and Wear (0632 323561). For cold conditions, fibre-nile clothing is loose, comfortable and absorbs any moisture.

Feathered friends

Where weight and compactness are important, I have found traditional down-filled sleeping bags superior, although a plastic bin liner to keep the material dry is a wise precaution. Technology has moved on a pace since the days when a night spent in a feather-filled sleeping bag left all the traces of a duckpond brawl the following

Light on your feet

There has been a quiet revolution in footwear for mountain walkers. The KSB3 by Karrimor introduced a new concept of lightweight footwear into the British market, with a studded sole resembling a football boot that gives a fine grip on rough terrain. Available from outdoor specialists at £46.40, or from Karrimor International, Avenue Parade, Accrington, Lancashire (0254 385911). The Brasher boots (illustrated here) at £39.95 are similar in concept with cushioning and waterproof protection that works. They are stoutly made by K. Shoes but weigh only 16oz a sharp difference from the traditional, unbending mountain boot. Available from Fleetfoot, 26 St Georges Quay, Lancaster, Lancashire (0524 33317).

Carry in comfort

My Ultimate Phazor Pilgrim rucksack (illustrated here) contains all my kit comfortably for a cost of £29.95, although the competition from Berghaus and Karrimor is strong. I easily prefer the frameless, shaped rucksack of the Pilgrim type as being most comfortable and easy to carry, distributing the load onto the pelvis.

Steady eating

A huge selection of stoves is available, but gas cylinders are cleanest and most compact. The smallest is Survival Aid's Fire King, which costs £1.99, lasts 90 minutes in calm conditions and is non-toxic. Available from Survival Aids, Morland, Pen-

with, Cumbria (0931 4307). The Peak 1 is a petrol stove that is safe and substantial and costs £27.75. The Gaz Globetrotter has the advantage of being extremely stable and lightweight; it comes enclosed in its own cooking pots and a methusene stove, complete with cooking pans, kettle, frying pan and cutlery.

Way ahead

Silva compasses, available at most outdoor specialists, are well designed and finished and have stood the test of orienteering and mountaineering expeditions for years. It is best to buy a liquid-filled compass, but if ever I have become lost using one, it has never been the compass's fault.

Action packed: Knitted hat, £4.95; Thermofleece jacket, £29.95; Karrimor Jagger 2 rucksack, £49.95; Gaz Globetrotter cooking set, £15.50; Silva compass, £10.95; OS map, £2.50; Four Seasons sleeping mat, £10.75; Peapod tent, £99.95; Karrimor Phazor Extreme sleeping bag, £85.50; Zambrian Trek-Lite boots, £39.50; woolen socks, £4.75. Available from branches of Philipsons, London



Here's to flower power, and to three designers who have turned their talents to the art of displaying plants - some going up in the world, some distinctly headstrong and some indubitably woolly minded. The designers are Sidney Hardwick's favourite plants, and she has designed a pot specially for them. It is hand-made in stoneware, with a subtle caramelized into a central tube so that trailing plants can wind their way upwards.

The head is one of a boy-girl pair of plant containers to hang on outside walls. They are cast in terracotta by Rooke's Pottery, who otherwise specialize in hand-thrown garden pots, ranging from small ones at 85p to large jardinières at £24. David and Catherine Rooke also undertake special designs to commission, and they have a range of glazed dishes for presentation and ambience. A recent "family tree" dish was



designed for a nineteenth birthday - the subject represented as the roots of a great chestnut tree and the various generations as

SHOPFRONT

Show here with a boy's (left), it is equally effective with tradecornia, ivy or rhododendrons, blue or red. It costs £15, unprinted, and must be collected (no mail order) from Sidney Hardwick's pottery at Cedarwood, Stream Road, Upton near Didcot, Oxfordshire (0236 565255).

Its branches, it cost £25. The terracotta heads are available in the Rooke's department of Harrods at £7.50 each, including a plant. Or they can be sent by mail, unprinted, for £10.80 a pair (including postage and packing) from Rooke's Pottery, High Street, Ipstones, Stoke-on-Trent. Visitors are welcome at the workshop to see the other ranges - the village is about 10 miles from Stoke-on-Trent. (053 871 806).



The range, called Woolly Bloomers, includes alpine lilies, daffodils and tulips and a variety of cacti. Some of daffodils are apparently the most popular line, but the cacti are the most amusing - after all, some species do actually look as if they are covered in wool. These are definitely jokers for the jolly people, not for the severely minded. Those illustrated here include a single cactus with a fluffy top at £3.95, three purple cactuses at £8.50 and a bowl of mother-in-law's tongues at £8.50. They are available by mail from Woolly Bloomers, 34 Marquis Close, Wensley, Huddersfield, for £1.20 on each item for postage and packing. You can also find them at the Jubilee Market, Covent Garden, London WC2, on Saturdays and Sundays.

Beryl Downing

IN THE GARDEN

Birth pains of a labour of love

(This week we begin *The Times Garden Project*. The idea behind it is to take an undeveloped garden in an inner-city area and build it up into an attractive practical one. We have chosen a modest-sized garden in Fulham,

West London. The owners moved in three months ago and after concentrating initially on the interior decoration, they now want to get to work outside. The budget is £300, or roughly £10 a week, and how many hours they

put in will depend on them. The monthly columns will follow their progress and we hope they will be of benefit to established gardeners anxious to improve their own gardens, as well as to beginners.

There is no point pretending: starting a garden from scratch is hard work. There are no short cuts. If preparation is not done properly, and thoroughly, then success will be hard to come by. But there is much to be gained if the first clod is turned, and we shall begin with this less taxing form of preparation.

Neighbourhood spy
First, look around you. Peer over the garden fence and visit some local parks to get an idea of the soil type and what does well in your neighbourhood. This will not restrict you to the plants which are on show, but it

will give an idea about the groups of plants you will be choosing from. Local conditions are all important.

Aspect has a great bearing on any garden, and it is essential to plan to know the direction of the prevailing wind. Wind is more an enemy than a friend in any garden and strong winds must be taken into account. How does the sun strike your garden? Does it have sunlight all day, or is it a "morning" or "afternoon" garden? Remember that the angle of the sun changes: the sun is much lower in the sky in winter than it is in summer. Consider any obstructions, be they buildings, plants or trees, and try to track the sun's path across the sky so that any plantings are catered for properly.

Paperwork

Now that the garden has been placed squarely in its environment, it is time to carry a piece of paper with you and make a

note of thoughts as they occur to you. You are going to need all the factors at your disposal so that detailed planning, once it starts, is well directed. Putting ideas on paper in some semblance of order is the first step towards crystallizing your thoughts and drawing up a finished plan. Even so, the finished plan must only be a guide and flexible enough to allow changes if something does not look right on the ground.

The Times garden is an oblong with a close-board fence on three sides and the house and patio on the fourth. It faces almost due south which means it will have good light or sun for most of the day. The terrace of houses which runs roughly east to west will protect the garden from the cold east and north winds and this means some tender plants can be considered.

Spadework

Now that you have exercised your brain, it is time to put your hands to work: levelling the ground and tackling the weeds. Weeds abound and the few deep-rooted ones must be coped with now. Bindweed, for instance, must be eradicated before planting because if it gets into the roots of established plants it is almost impossible to get rid of. Closer to the house what I consider to be the worst weed in the garden, *Oxalis corniculata*, it resembles clover, but the resemblance ends there. It grows from a single carrot-like root, and around this are numerous bulbils. Each of these bulbils once separated from the parent will make a new plant. Weeds have flowered and set seed so there is little we can do now to keep them from the soil. The first job is to level roughly the soil ready for



The *Times* garden: Levelling ground and tackling weeds is first

cultivation. If the levelling is minor it can be done by moving soil about to where it is needed. But if levelling is major, it is important to scrape off the top soil and move sub soil to areas where it is needed before replacing the top soil. Unless the soil is good for two or more spits down, it would be unacceptable to mix together the top soil and the sub soil.

Tools for the job

Now that work is starting, it is essential to have the right tools for the job. A good spade and a good fork are invaluable. No matter how good tools are, it is possible to break them, so always handle them with respect. Shop around and choose a tool with a handle that is smooth and strong. Constantly running hands up and down a handle which is not smooth will "quickly cause

blisters. Wilkinson's, Spear and Jackson and Bulldog tools are all good quality.

Breaking ground

Cultivating must be done properly. The soil in *The Times* garden is good and it is easily broken up to depths of 15in to 18in with a fork. Double digging in this case is not necessary. It might be worth hiring a cultivator with the capability of cultivating to a depth of 10in. This depth is sufficient for lawns and the borders, if considered necessary, could be dug later. Make sure the ground is free from large bricks and stones, then take the cultivator to the required depth in a number of passes - 3in deep, then 6in deep and finally to the depth desired. Hire charges for cultivators vary considerably but about £10 a day is average.

Ashley Stephenson

Prepared hyacinths

There are a number of specialist growers who have perfected the system of treating hyacinth bulbs so that they will flower early. Buy bulbs from a reputable grower, shop or garden centre now, if possible over the next few weeks they should flower before or at Christmas. By planting in succession over the next few weeks, you can have bowls in flower through the winter. Select a bowl big enough to take from three to five bulbs and deep enough to cover them. It is permissible to have the point showing above the compost. Plant the bulbs on the bottom of the bowl. Plant as many as you are able to fit in the bowl; it is all right for them to be touching. Fill in around the bulbs, then water thoroughly to wash the compost round the bulbs and to make sure the bowl has a good reservoir of water before it is stored away to get ready for flowering.

For the next eight weeks at least, the bowls must be stored in the dark and in cool to cold conditions. Before forcing can take place, the bulbs must have a well-developed root system. The bowls can be plunged outside; dig them into peat or bark beds so that they are covered by at least 4in of compost. They can be placed in a garage or a shed, or even in a cupboard where they can develop a strong root system. Check regularly over the next eight weeks and more to make sure the pots do not dry out. Those outside will need less such attention than bulbs stored in a cupboard indoors. After a minimum of eight weeks, they can be brought out into light.

Hibiscus

Shrubs which flower late summer early autumn are at a premium. Although there is often colour in the garden, few shrubs flower at this time. One which does is *Hibiscus syriacus*, closely related to the *Hibiscus* one seen in profusion in Spain or the Canary Isles. This species is hardy, and because of its late flowering characteristics, it does need protection in the north and east. The shrub would survive, but its flowers can be burned by cold winds and frosts.

Hibiscus syriacus needs a well-drained site, preferably in full sun. *Hibiscus* will grow on almost any soil, but will do much better if the conditions are good. Needs little or no pruning and branches which grow out of shape can be removed with a pair of secateurs. Should a plant grow too big for its position, it can be cut back in the spring. It will tolerate hard pruning so long as the sap is rising. Cutting at the wrong time of year does not necessarily mean the plant will die, but there is a risk. There are a great many varieties of *Hibiscus*, covering a wide range of colours. They are sometimes called the Tree *Hibiscus*.

H. Woodbridge is a fine example with its large pink flowers and a carmine blotch towards the centre of the petals. *H. William R Smith* has large white flowers and petals with a somewhat crinkled appearance. *H. Hamabo* is a pale pink, which fades a little more as the sun strikes; each petal has a crimson blotch at the base. You may have to shop around for plants, they are available at Notcutts and Hilliers Nurseries. Small plants will cost about £3 each.

Thankfully, Austria's finest sweet wines are easier to get hold of today. This is partly because the English wine trade finds them such good value for money, especially when compared to German Beerenauslese and Trockenbeerenauslese. Equally modestly priced, over here are the country's dry white wines, but the red wines, produced in Austria in smaller proportions, are more difficult to find.

In terms of taste, Austrian wines seem to me to be a halfway house between the wines of two of its middle-European neighbours Germany and Hungary. Perhaps the most decidedly Austrian flavour comes from the Grüner Veltliner grape, a white Austrian variety that accounts for half of all the white wines produced.

Unfortunately - Austria's *Remige*, or new wines, can only be drunk on the spot, but there are some good, value-for-money Austrian wines available. Gräts of St James's Falkenstein (Victoria Wine £2.49, ASDA £2.49) is a fruity, grapey wine, partly from the Grüner Veltliner grape. Another good Grüner Veltliner is Klostergarden. This green racy wine is a shade drier than the Falkenstein but just as vital, and again good value for money at £2.59 from Threshers. Klostergarden, a frosty deep purple wine, is the red twin of Klostergarden, also made by Klostergarden although made from a different grape. Like all Austrian and some other middle-European reds, it has a slightly bitter tannic finish (Threshers £2.59).

But the wines from the Burgenland are still the finest of the country. Lenz Moser is Austria's most famous wine firm, and deservedly so. It was the late Lenz Moser who, among other achievements, pioneered the economical and labour-intensive high-cultivation method. Victoria Wine has always carried a couple of his sweet Burgenland wines, so try Moser's rich, peachy Ruster Beerenauslese 1981, practically a give-away at £5.19 a bottle. Almost twice the price and not nearly twice the flavour, but considerably cheaper than the German equivalent is Moser's rich, smoky golden 1976 "Donnerkircher" Wel-schriesling Trockenbeerenauslese (Victoria Wine £9.50). But please note this wine and the 1981 Ruster may well have to be ordered in advance from your local branch and expect delay of a week to 10 days.

Jane MacQuitty

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REVIEW Classical records of the month

Ravishing with refinement

Bizet: Carmen Baltsa/Ricciarelli/Carreras/van Dam; Berlin Philharmonic/Karajan (Deutsche Grammophon 2741 025, Compact Disc 410 088-2 G1 3, both three records)

Last autumn when Herbert von Karajan was in Berlin making his recording of *Carmen* - which should be in the shops by the end of next week - he complained of course interpretations of Bizet's opera. "My *Carmen*", he said, "will not smell of beer". He has kept his word. If recordings have a smell, like the flower *Carmen* throws to José, then here the scent is much nearer Latour than light. Of all the versions of *Carmen* on record Karajan's latest, his third, is the most refined and aristocratic.

The Berlin Philharmonic is allowed to bring no frenzy to the score. Indeed, in the first act it is almost possible to hear the instruments shimmering in the heat of Seville. Even the Toreador motif is not given much flamboyance: the pit is more of a strut than a swagger. The prelude to Act III is exquisite, with Karajan and his orchestra taking the listener off to some distant, exotic land which could almost be that of *Verdier*.

The danger in this Spain, lazy in the sun, is provided by Carmen herself in the shape of Agnes Baltsa. Karajan was careful to choose both a José and a Carmen virtually fresh to their roles, so that they did not come to the studios with a quantity of ingrained vocal mannerisms. Both Baltsa and Carreras had previously sung in the opera only a handful of times, although it is a safe bet that there will be many more headfuls to come, and they were heard together in Bizet at Covent Garden last summer.

Baltsa's Carmen is full of provocation. She sings the Habanera in extraordinarily long-sung phrases, with scarcely a breath taken before the end of the first verse. The "toi" of the warning "Prends garde à toi" is whispered almost conspiratorially, just as it is at the very close of the act when Carmen breaks free. Most mezzos belt it out, but Baltsa is too subtle for that. Like Karajan, she is always looking for the architecture of the piece, the way one phrase for another. But above all she shows the right temperament for the role, the flash of independence with the occasional hint of feminine softness. The latter comes out in that brief last-act encounter between Carmen and Escamillo when she does say, probably truthfully, that it is the bull-fighter she loves above all others.

José Carreras offers a gentle and romantic José, very much in keeping with Karajan's reading. Only in that final act does his obsession with Carmen truly emerge, as the cooing changes to an impassioned plea before the ultimate stabbing. Carreras's José is very different to that of Domingo on the main rival set (Abbado, also on Deutsche Grammophon). It is all summed up in the Flower Song: Domingo is utterly secure



Fresh roles: Agnes Baltsa and José Carreras in Karajan's 'sweet-smelling' *Carmen*

and robust while Carreras is more sensual, with some quite exceptional head notes for the penultimate phrase, "J'étais une chose à toi".

Domingo's José is rooted very much in the famous Edinburgh Festival production, with his references to Mirene's dust-covered soldier who inspired Bizet's opera. Carreras is more firmly in the French lyric tradition, of which Massenet was to be the next master. Katia Ricciarelli trims down her soprano to make Micaëla as girlish as possible, but her

French is rarely comprehensible. José van Dam, however, is an outstandingly good Escamillo, with the full vocal range needed for this part, which so often seems impossible to cast, and his Act II entry is a revelation.

Some of the smaller roles are indifferently taken, and the perennial problem of the spoken dialogue has not been solved. The French actors rarely sound like their singing counterparts. The soubrette Micaëla and a rasping Carmen have precious little in common with

Ricciarelli and Italian. But these are the minor blemishes on a *Carmen* which is musically ravishing. It needs only a few moments with Karajan's 20-year-old RCA issue to hear how much he has changed in his approach to Bizet. With *Carmen*, Deutsche Grammophon have won the race in Britain to issue the first complete opera simultaneous on conventional and compact disc. They could not have made a better choice.

John Higgins

A challenge met with passion

The good news here is Zoltan Kocsis's penetratingly brilliant recording of the complete Chopin waltzes. Light-fingered, supple in rhythm, and always bursting with energy, Kocsis's playing may sound too light-weight for some Chopin enthusiasts. But I find he restores an exuberant, life-giving quality to these subtle masterpieces, and imbues them with a free-flowing character which is central to their attraction.

Perhaps some waltzes, including the famous *Grand Valse Brillante* in E flat, do go too fast - the A Flat, Op 64 No 3, with its syncopated main beats, comes out more like Joplin than Chopin. But Kocsis's gentle, subdued handling of the A Minor, Op 34 No 2, with the melody melodiously highlighted in the tenor, is beautiful. He also renews admiration for the great C Sharp Minor Waltz, Op 64 No 3, drawing every ounce of wonder from the central section, with its enigmatic change to D flat major.

Kocsis's playing is a traditional reading of disputed passages, and his playing generally has a flexibility in terms of rubato and phrasing which links him decisively with old-school Chopin pianists such as Rubinstein, rather than with the steady directness of, say, Pollini in this repertoire. In the end, rhythmic shaping in Chopin is a matter of

Chopin: The 19 Waltzes Kocsis (Philips 6514 280) Liszt: Après une Lecture de Dante: Funérailles; Sir Chants Polonais (after Chopin) Arrau (Philips 6514 279) Schubert: Piano Sonatas in A, D 959; Arrau (Philips 6514 368) Schubert: Piano Sonatas in A Minor and A Major D.664, 537; Brendel (Philips 6514 282) Ravel: The Piano Concerto; Menuet Antique; Une Barque sur l'Océan; Ravel's Symphony Orchestra/Charles Dutoit (Decca SKOL 7892)

highly personal taste, and I find Kocsis intelligent and fresh.

Claudio Arrau includes some Chopin on his new recital record, but in arrangements by Liszt. The Six Polish Songs, Op 74, make splendidly varied material for the piano, but Arrau plays them with a crusty insistence that removes much of their charm. The best thing on this record is *Funérailles*, which opens up magnificent vistas of gloom and mourning. *Après une Lecture de Dante* is noticeably less successful, as if the *lecture* had put the pianist in a rather bad mood and the piano is struck with a noticeable lack of clarity in important sections.

I should add a mention of his sturdy directness and nobility which many people admire. But

his account of Schubert's great A Major Sonata (a single disc reissue from a recent boxed set) is gruff and ungraceful.

Emotional ambiguity has more often been found in Schubert by Alfred Brendel. But on his new single-disc release he tackles two early sonatas, in A Minor, (D.537) and A Major (D.664) which are less promising. Brendel's way with them rather affecting naiveties tends to be rather brittle and withdrawn, and only rarely does an easy, clear, unforced lyricism make itself felt - notably in the flowing first movement of the A Major, which is a delight.

In recent close encounters with a compact disc player some of the best and worst sounds came from Decca recordings. Halitnik's version of Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony was revealed as a stodgy, unclear piece of engineering, while Charles Dutoit's Falla disc, with the Montreal Symphony, blazed into spacious, well-blended life. Even on conventional equipment the fine qualities of Dutoit's new recording of Ravel piano concertos and piano transcriptions are dazzlingly evident; unfortunately Pascal Rogé's energetic slog through the two concertos cannot match this sense of atmosphere.

Nicholas Kenyon



Coaxing and coaching: Leonard Bernstein at work

Hollow centre to the Bernstein Brahms

Bernstein has reached Brahms just in time for his 150th anniversary, and the new boxed set looks very tempting. But, after much talk of contained rage in his own programme note, it transpires that the most intense thing about this cycle is its intense disappointment.

The Vienna Philharmonic play well, though not as well as under Kertész, the five recordings of quality and balance is not all it could be; but above all, the readings leave a hollow where the interpreter's response and that of the listener should engage. Bernstein claims to have spent "long and richly rewarding weeks" living and working with Brahms - just long enough, it seems, to penetrate enough of the surface to underline it here or there to a moment of self-projection.

The First and Fourth Symphonies, which I guess, mean most to Bernstein, also suffer the most. In both opening movements sforzandi and ritardandi are superimposed to substitute for organic thematic and dynamic growth, creating sparks rather than depth charges. While the slow movement of the Fourth is played better than almost anything else, its big central theme almost cracks under the weight of indulgence, and its counterpart in the first is flaccid and soft-focused. The finales, though interestingly detailed, lack a sufficiently coherent grasp of structure.

Bernstein is more at ease in the Second, which unfolds sweetly, lucidly and with well-judged tempi, if with no greatly

distinctive character. But while he judges equally well the Third's small scale, making no exaggerated claims, the last movement's elegy becomes intolerably mannered. Unlike the Bernstein Brahms, hot off the press, Deutsche Grammophon's other major boxed set this month is a compilation of earlier separate recordings. Here are Anne-Sophie Mutter's earliest concerto performances from 1978 to 1982, valuable reference material for her burgeoning performing character.

Brahms is perhaps the least well served here, though the very sense of reaching out to find a further expressive amplitude has often quite compelling consequences. And the Mendelssohn, painstakingly lucid, does not yet delve deep, but its slow movement epitomises a quality also found in the Beethoven - a disarming and utterly individual inner repose, a sense of emotion, recorded in tranquillity and articulated through a fine, long singing line.

The two Mozart Concertos (the G and A Major) are the prizes of the box. The unforced simplicity of the outer movements restores a fresh transparency after so much high gloss, while the sheer naivety of response to the arching opening of the G Major slow movement finds there a secret hidden from more mature, but more cluttered wisdom.

The blazon "direct metal mastering" and the word "Philadelphia" are eloquent heralds for the message of Mutter's *Schicksalslied*. True to form, this is a vibrant, immediate, ripe performance of shattering contrast where sound and silence meet in their extremes. The vivid wind solos of the *Kalender* Prince, the massive surging surge of the sea pulse in the memory. But they inhabit a world of drama rather than dream.

Collectors of Russian exotica may also be interested in a new Abbey Road mastering of a 1981 Soviet recording of the comparatively rare 1894 *Caucasian Sketches* of Tchaikovsky. Tchaikovsky thought him "something very individual". Neither these vignettes nor Fedoseyev's account of them quite persuades me, though their amiable travelogue is an enterprising companion to stirring performances of *Night on the Bare Mountain* and *In the Steppes of Central Asia*.

Hilary Finch

Lively Chopin, funeral Liszt

Our time, Jean Barraqué once remarked, is one that imposes greatness on its artists, and it is good to have the opportunity to welcome back a record that shows how thoroughly he understood and responded to that challenge. Originally issued by Valois more than a decade ago, these are passionate, high-pressure performances of two vocal works where desperation bursts out into abundant lyricism.

Séquence, from the early 1950s, takes its bearings from Nietzsche's *Chant après chant* is part of a later, enormous project to make a galaxy of musical meditations on Hermann Broch's novel *The Death of Virgil*, recently lauded in these pages by Michael Ratcliffe as the thinking person's holiday record. For many people, no doubt, Josephine Nendick's unembarrassed performance and Noël Lee's magnificent pianism will open new paths into that labyrinthine book.

But Barraqué died 10 years ago this month, and if there is any composer around today capable of going in search of greatness it is Stockhausen. Indeed, in *Licht*, the cycle of seven music dramas on which he is embarked, he might seem to be answering the call all too excessively, with ceremonial celebrating at length a highly personal mythology, science

Barraqué: *Séquence*, *Chant après chant* Nendick, Lee, Copenhagen Percussion Ensemble, Prisma Ensemble/Veto, Astrée/TCL AS 75 Stockhausen: *Donnerstag aus Licht* Various performers, Deutsche Grammophon 2740 272 (four records) Messiaen: *Méditations sur le mystère de la Sainte Trinité* Bata Unicorn-Kanchana DKK 9024-5 (two records)

fiction, Jewish mysticism, numerology and soft porn. It all results, as I noted after the Amsterdam premiere of half of *Donnerstag* three years ago, in a scenario that is obnoxious when it is not puerile.

The release of a complete recording of this opera, however, makes me wonder whether that is so very important. What definitely does matter is that Stockhausen should believe all this mumbo-jumbo, and incredibly though it may seem, he plainly does. Otherwise he could not maintain a style of such solemnity through a work playing for more than three hours, or achieve so much sheer audaciousness and excitement. Much of *Donnerstag* is slow, but its textures vibrate with a quality of newness and weight that may leave one gasping, even as one gapes at the inanity of what is going on dramatically.

It is possible, nonetheless, that more information about the stage proceedings would help. The set comes with sketchy notes of the sort that no serious record company would think adequate for a standard opera. And yet here a complete libretto is the more needed, especially for the first act, which deals with the moral, artistic and amorous education of Michael, an adaptation of the archangel and the hero of *Licht*. Anyone doubtful about the enterprise might therefore like to try instead the second act, a trumpet concerto depicting Michael's journey round the world in music of massive dark majesty, or else the huge labouring fanfare *Michael's Greeting*, intended eventually to welcome adepts back for the fifth day of their initiation into Stockhausen's mysteries.

Meanwhile one may be grateful that some composers have attached themselves to this of longer currency. Messiaen's *Méditations sur le mystère de la Sainte Trinité* is the latest and longest of his organ cycles, and Jennifer Bate comes to it near the end of her rainbow-coloured, crystal-detailed journey through the canon. As composition and as performance, here is a part of the musical greatness of our time.

Paul Griffiths

PREVIEW Theatre

Refugees on Sunset Boulevard

A play whose characters include Tarzan and the Marx Brothers alongside Bertold Brecht and Thomas Mann is bound to have a certain zany quality about it apart from involving a clear clash of cultures.

Although the former group make only short appearances, they help to set the scene in *Tales from Hollywood*, by Christopher Hampton, which receives its British premiere at the National Theatre next week. It is the story of a colony of German and Austrian writers who, as émigrés and refugees from Fascism, found themselves in Hollywood during the last war. They were warmly welcomed, but no one knew what to do with them once they had arrived. Their employment as screen-writers was both funny and a waste of time and talent.

Tales from Hollywood was commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum, in Los Angeles, where it had its first performance last year. It received not entirely favourable reviews from



Getting it all taped: Michael Gambon and Ian MacDiarmid rehearse *Tales from Hollywood*

the local critics, who reacted with some sensitivity to its picture of Hollywood.

Hampton, who had himself been writing for the cinema for a while - "an enjoyable, but in my case, apparently fruitless pastime", he comments in an introduction to the text of the play - was offered the commission in 1980. The stipulation was that it should be set in Los

Angeles, the European émigrés caught his interest.

The émigré writers were a temperamental group, often not speaking to each other, and to link the characters, Hampton introduced Odo von Horvath, the Hungarian writer who was killed in Paris in 1938 when a branch of a tree fell on him. Hampton discovered that at the time of his death Horvath had

just started a novel in which a writer emigrated to America, so far his play he transported him over to Hollywood as one of the émigrés to narrate the story.

Christopher Warman

Tales from Hollywood is directed by Peter Gill, with Michael Gambon as Horvath, and also starring Blaise Whitelaw, Guy Rolfe and Ian MacDiarmid. It opens at the Olivier Theatre (828 2252) on Thurs.

Out of Town

BIRMINGHAM: Alexandra (021 643 1231). French Without Tears by Terence Rattigan. Mon-Sat 3, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm. Christopher Blake, Joanna Hole, Deborah Watling, Jeremy Sinden in a touring revival of Rattigan's comedy, directed by Eleanor Fagan.

DUBLIN: Abbey Theatre (0001 744405). *The Moon in the Yellow River* by Denis Johnston. Until Sept 10, Mon-Sat at 8pm. Production of the 1931 play sometimes called "an Irish Cherry Orchard". Cast includes Ray McAnally, Geoffrey Quigley, Desmond Gaver, directed by Tomás MacAnna.

HORNINGHURCH: Queen's (040 24 4333). *Black Comedy* by Peter Shaffer and The School for Wives by Molière. Wed-Sept 17, Tues-Sat at 8pm; matinee Sat at 2pm. Molière's play is Paul Tomlinson's version of Molière's farce is set on a "blocked-out" stage.

LEICESTER: Haymarket (0533 539797). *Having a Ball* by Alan Ayckbourn. Until Sept 17, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinee Sat at 4pm. Farce set in a vasectomy clinic. Cast includes Ron Bagnall, Robert Taylor, Bob Hewis; directed by Warren Hooper.

finally heartbreaking consequences of Christ's choice of Botha's Johannesburg for his second coming; adoption as white propaganda figure, arrest as a Communist agitator, and resurrection on the third day with Albert Luthuli and Steve Biko.

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU (01461 65222). Today at 3pm and 7.45pm; Mon, Thurs and Fri at 7.45pm. In repertory with *Inner Voices* by Eduardo de Filippo Tues and Wed at 7.45pm; matinee Wed at 2pm. Once again the National strikes gold in America, this time with Kaufman and Hart's endearing 1938 comedy about a family of happy eccentrics. Jimmy Jewel as the genial, drop-out grandpa, Geraldine McEwan as dotty, authoress mother, Gaye Brown as alcoholic actress and Margaret Courtenay as a Russian grandee turned waitress combine in a gloriously funny, subversive hymn to independence.

WOZZA ALBERTI Criterion (030 3216). Mon-Fri at 8.30pm, Sat at 8.30pm and 8.30pm. Black South Africa's cry from the heart. Virtuoso in multiple part-doubling and storytelling on a bare stage, Percy Mwa and Mwaenzi Ngweni smelt the often funny,

SALISBURY: Playhouse (0722 20333). *The Woodlanders* by Thomas Hardy, adapted by David Horlock. Until Sept 17, Mon-Wed and Fri at 7.15pm (not Aug 29); Thurs at 8pm; Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinee Thurs at 2.30pm. World premiere production of adaptation of Hardy's tale of Dorset life.

STRAITFORD: Royal Shakespeare (0769 256623). Henry VIII. Thurs at 7.30pm. Howard Davies directs Richard Griffiths, John Thew, Gemma Jones, Sarah Berger, in a play last seen at Stratford in 1969. Julius Caesar. Today at 1.30pm, Wed and Fri at 7.30pm. Peter McNery, Joseph O'Connor, David Schofield, Emrys James; directed by Ron Daniels.

WIMBORNE: Today, Mon and Thurs at 7.30pm. Daniel Massey, Emrys James, John Thew, Gemma Jones, Zoë Wanamaker, Richard O'Callaghan; Directed by John Caird. Comedy of Errors. Tues at 7.30pm. Adrian Noble directing Peter McNery and Paul Greenwood as the Antipholus twins.

STRAITFORD: Other Places (0769 256623). The Dillens, adapted by Ron Hutchinson from the book by Angela Hewitts. Today, Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. Barry Kyle directs RSC members, Peggy Mount, Carolyn Pickles, Dickie Arnold and Tom Cook plus 200 local people, in the life story of a Stratford man. Performances begin indoors but continue weather permitting at various outdoor locations.

The Time of Your Life by William Soyars. Wed and Fri at 7.30pm. Howard Davies directs William Soyars's 1939 comedy in a well-received production.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA: Palace (0702 42584). Not Now Darling by Ray Cooney and John Chapman. Wed-7 Sept 24, Mon-Thurs and Sat at 8pm, Fri at 8.15pm; matinee Sat at 2.30pm. First production of the autumn season: a farce set in a London West End hotel's suite.

YORK: Theatre Royal (0904 23585). Cider with Rosie by Laurie Lee, adapted by Nick Darko. Until Sept 17, Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm, Wed at 7pm, Sat at 8pm; matinee Sept 17 at 4pm. Music and humour in an evocation of Cotswold village life in the 1920s.

Theatre: Anthony Masters and Irving Wardle: Galleries: John Russell Taylor: Photography: Michael Young

PREVIEW Galleries

THE JAPANESE PRINT SINCE 1900. British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (636 1555). Until Sept 11, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm.

A show which graphically demonstrates the dilemma of twentieth-century Japanese artists caught between East and West. Some try to continue in the old woodblock tradition, as though the outside world did not exist; others try to reject the Japanese past in toto. As so often in such situations, the most interesting work is produced by those in the middle, finding fruitful interaction between the disparate traditions. There is some good recent work, but a general tendency to ape Western artists reduces its effectiveness. Also at the BM, until Sept 18, the Cyclic Art exhibition of figurines, pots and metalwork.

MANET AT WORK. National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (638 3321). Until Oct 6, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm.

London's major marking of the Manet centenary, a show bringing together the National Gallery's own Manets and various other works borrowed from home and abroad to illustrate the theme of Manet's working methods. Four important paintings, "Music in the Tuileries Gardens", "The Waitress", "The Execution of Maximilian", and "Portrait of Eva Gonzales", are studied in detail, with related sketches and prints and background material, and there is a special section on the theme of Manet and war.

PHOTOGRAPHY

CORNEL LUCAS. The Photographers' Gallery, 5 Great Newport Street, London WC2 (243 1569) Sept 3-Oct 8, Tues-Sat 11am-7pm. Long overdue showing for Cornel Lucas, who has been in the business of portrait and fashion photography for more than 40 years. Prints on show, all made by Lucas himself, include photographs of the 1950s and 1960s which, through their contrived imagery, epitomize the artificial world of fashion and film. Also on show until Sept 3 is *London By Night*, well worth seeing for Brandt's wartime reportage on the London Underground and Brian Griffin's more recent chilling work.

WILLIAM EGGLESTON. Victoria and Albert Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 (689 5371). Until Sept 18, Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm. Colour photographs of the American South by William Eggleston. The dye-transfer prints give an added intensity of colour which does little to hide the snapshot feel of the exhibition.

THE SCULPTURE SHOW. Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3144). Until Oct 9, Mon-Thurs 10am-6pm, Fri and Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-6pm; Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 6075). Until Oct 9, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat and Sun 10am-7pm.

A dismission tree. It may not be the best, but it is certainly the largest: more works by more living sculptors (50 in all) than have ever been assembled in one show before in Britain. It occupies the whole of the Hayward and Serpentine galleries, as well as the South Bank riverside walk and the parkland round the Serpentine.

VIENNA 1900. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland, Queen Street, Edinburgh (031 558 8321). Until Sept 25, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm.

Shows of this year's Edinburgh Festival, pulling together the threads of the musical and dramatic presentations in a small but choice tribute to turn-of-the-century Vienna. It conveys a vivid sense of the small artistic society where everyone knew everyone else, and suggests that this was the kind of atmosphere in which some very exotic plants could grow. Good representation of the giants Klimt, Schiele and Kokoschka, as well as of the architects and the craftsmen of the Wiener Werkstätte, and a surprising display of paintings and stage designs by Arnold Schoenberg, borrowed from Los Angeles and on show in Britain for the first time.

ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE. Sully Gallery, 105 High Street, Edinburgh (031 557 1140). Until Sept 17, daily 10am-6pm. First retrospective in this country (later to be seen in London) of American cut figure Robert Mapplethorpe. Prints on show include those of singer-poet Patti Smith, with whom Mapplethorpe lived for a number of years; the black, male, nude studies and the quietly erotic, almost fish-cold views of American musculature, Lisa Lyon.

Critics' choice

ARDEN OF FAVERSHAM The Pit (828 8795). Mon-Fri at 7.30pm; matinee Thurs at 2pm. In repertory with *Lear* by Edward Bond (today at 7.30pm).

Terry Hands's gripping and perceptive production of the anonymous Elizabethan murder drama, now transferred from Stratford, reveals it as a fascinating, original classic. Jenny Agutter and Robert O'Mahoney play the adulterous couple whose attempts to kill her stolid husband (Christopher Benjamin) combine pathos with aggressively black humour.

CHARTLEY'S AUNT Chalkley (836 8404). Until Sept 24, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm. Griff Rhys Jones makes one of the best "aunts" ever in a joyous production with an excellent supporting cast.

THE FAWN Cottolero (528 2252). Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory with *The Beggar's Opera* at 2.30pm and 7.30pm; Mon-Wed at 7.30pm.

Flamboyant, witty and thoughtful National Theatre revival of John Marston's Jacobean comedy which combines contemporary satire with some shrewd vignettes of the war between the sexes. Bernard Lloyd's virtuosity and intelligence as a duke observing in disguise (shades of *Measure for Measure*) hold it all together.

FEM Royal Court (730 1745). Last performances today at 4pm and 8pm. Joint Stock's beautifully disciplined production of Caryl Churchill's incisive, moving, sometimes very funny play about four generations of Fenland women returns after its New York success to provide London with rich, truthful acting and an exceptionally satisfying dramatic experience.

HAPPY FAMILY Duke of York's (836 5122). Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri and Sat at 8.45pm and 8.30pm. Giles Cooper's clever, disturbing 1960s comedy about three grown-up siblings imprisoned in childhood ritual is still theatrically gripping and full of psychological and political nuance. Excellent direction by Maria Aiken of an impressive cast led by Ian Ogilvy and Angela Thorne.

MOSES OFF Savoy (836 8888). Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 3pm. The funniest farce for years. Michael Frayn's brilliantly contrived complex of on-stage disasters and backstage dramas is still keeping houses full and audiences helpless with laughter after its first cast change. Phyllida Law, Benjamin Whitrow and the rest of Michael Blackmore's crack company give it the best of both worlds - the commercial hit and the connoisseur's classic.

A PATRIOT FOR ME Haymarket (0533 539797). Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinee Sat at 2.30pm. John Osborne's epic about an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army, fighting his way through society to a top espionage job only to be blackmailed as a homosexual, comes up full of drama, colour and subtlety in Ronald Eyre's revival transferred from Chichester. Supporting Alan Bates in the central role, Harry Andrews as a veteran general and Michael Gough as a Baron hoping Mozartian scores in drag stand firmly as opposite poles in the Vienna that Lyth should have told us more about.

WOZZA ALBERTI Criterion (030 3216). Mon-Fri at 8.30pm, Sat at 8.30pm and 8.30pm. Black South Africa's cry from the heart. Virtuoso in multiple part-doubling and storytelling on a bare stage, Percy Mwa and Mwaenzi Ngweni smelt the often funny,

ENTERTAINMENTS

What's new on the GLC South Bank?

GLC South Bank Concert Hall, Victoria Road, London SE1 8XZ.
Tel: 01-928 3191. Information: 01-928 3192.

CREDIT CARDS Direct Club and American Express
are welcome as well as Access and Barclaycard. 01-928 4544.

Standby. Schoolchildren, students, unemployed, senior citizens. 01-633 0932 Only £2.00 Royal Festival Hall, 1.50 Queen Elizabeth Hall. Available one hour before start of performance.

The GLC's South Bank Summer Music
FINAL CONCERTS
Artistic Director SIMON RATTLE

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

GLC LEARN YOUR INSTRUMENT
FESTIVAL FOR CHILE
Saturday 3 September 1983

INTI-ILLIMANI - JOHN WILLIAMS
MUSIC BY PHILIP MILLER, PERFORMED BY JESSIE FLETCHER, JANE MILES

FRANKIE ARMSTRONG - BOB BAILEY - LEM ROUSSELL
MUSIC BY PHILIP MILLER, PERFORMED BY JESSIE FLETCHER, JANE MILES

PARVOLI ROOMS 2.30pm. Ticket prices: £1.50, £2.50, £3.50

GLC Thamesday
A free day of fun for all the family.

JAZZ IN THE MUSIC BOX
Overlooking the Thames. There's FREE jazz, a new mix of
wine bar and the best view in London - in THE MUSIC
BOX, Royal Festival Hall.

MITCH DALTON and JEFF CLYNE
7.30 pm Saturday 27 August and
7.00 pm Sunday 28 August.
Limited seating only. Come and try!

Royal Festival Hall

Open all day. Free lunchtime music. Open to all.
Food and drink. Book, record and gift shops. Fully air-conditioned.
Places Near: September 1-9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31.

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL
SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1983 7.30 pm
PETER BOZZETT presents

"GOOD TIME GEORGE"
GEORGE MELLY
with JOHN CHILTON'S FEETWARMERS
and guests from the popular TV series

**ACKER BILK ELAINE DELMAR
WILL GAINES MEMPHIS SLIM**
An evening of high life and music
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PREVIEW Music

Concerts

FOUR FROM
Tonight, 7.30pm, Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (S99 6212)
In the first of three notable pianistic Proms this week Philip Fowke plays Richard Strauss's *Burleske* and Weber's *Konzertstück*. The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Norman Del Mar then performs Hindemith's entertaining *Symphonic Metamorphosis* of Thomas by Weber.

BRAMHMS-SCHOENBERG
Tonight, 7.30pm, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (922 3191, credit cards 922 6544)
Schoenberg's illuminating orchestration of Brahms's G minor Piano Quartet is played by the London Sinfonietta conducted by Simon Rattle. They also offer Haydn's Symphony No 67, and Alfred Brendel solos in Mozart's last piano concerto, K 595.

THE PROUD ARE RISEN
Tonight, 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
Some singers called The Sixteen give forth with Tomkins's *Oh, God, the Proud are Risen*, Schütz's *Musikalische Exequien*, Byrd's *Laudibus in Sanctis* and Ad Montium cum Tribulatione.

DECEPTION PASS
Tomorrow, 3pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank London SE1 (922 3191, credit cards 922 6544)
The Philip Jones Brass Ensemble play Paul Patterson's *Deception Pass*, a 1981 piece, Praetorius's *Terpsichorean Suite*, a Handel concerto and Haydn's *Concerto for the Violin*.

MORE BRAHMS
Tomorrow, 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh (031-225 5738)
Pianists Zukerman and Muro Nelipour are heard in an exciting programme of Brahms sonatas: the Violin Sonatas Op 100 and 108, and the viola version of Op 120 No 2.

LAST SOUTH BANK
Tomorrow, 7pm, Festival Hall
In the last concert of the generally disappointing South Bank Summer Music series Simon Rattle directs the City of Birmingham Orchestra in Sibelius's Symphonies Nos 5, 6 and 7. Earlier, at 5.30pm in the Westwood Room, Robert Simpson gives a talk on these works.

Rock & Jazz

KID CREOLE
Tonight, Southampton Gaumont; Mon and Tues, Poole Arts Centre; Thurs and Fri, Edinburgh Playhouse
... and his Coconut, whose well-publicized row with Coati Mundi, Creole's sidekick, may provide a perfect scenario for the entire tour.

ACTUAL FESTIVAL
Today and tomorrow, ICA Theatre, Neash House, The Mall, London SW1 (950 0493)
At 3pm today, the brilliant American soprano sopranoist Steve Lacy performs with Brian Glynn, William Burroughs's sometime-accomplice, and various performance artists. Tonight at 8pm Keith Tippett leads a group made up of five trumpeters and two pianists, no doubt furthering his recent experiments. Tomorrow at 8pm, Fred Frith, the British guitarist now domiciled in lower Manhattan, presents two of his groups, Duck & Cover and Skeleton Crew; at 8pm Lacy reappears as part of an appetizing trio with the pianist Mal Waldron and the saxophonist Steve Potts.

READING ROCK
Today and tomorrow, Thameside Arena, Reading, Berkshire
Today means heavy metal: Black Sabbath, Suzi Quatro, Magnum, Amii and others, with the exception of Marlon, whose successful revival of the "progressive rock" of the early 1970s does not, thank goodness, appear to have set a trend. Tomorrow sounds like better fun: Little Steven and the Disciples of Soul may have dumped their horn section, but "Little" Miami Steve Van Zandt will be in charge of a dynamite band. Thin Lizzy promise their first British appearance; Ten Years After have

Opera

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight and next Sat, the ENO's revival of *Don Giovanni*, conducted by Peter Robinson, which Paul Scrimshaw directed earlier this month. Meanwhile, Jonathan Miller's sword-winning *Madama Butterfly* continues its return run, with its original strong cast now conducted by Noel Davies. Coming to a timely revival of David Blake's important dramatic epic, *Toussaint Louverture*, for performances on Sept 6, 9, 14, 17 and 23 with Neil



Groves Conducting Haydn

KU EBBINGE
Tomorrow, 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
Ku Ebbinge plays the oboe of Amore in stirring Telemann Oboe of Amore Concerto, and the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra under Ton Koopman follows with the Overture and Conclusion from the same composer's *Tafelmusik*. Earlier J.S. Bach's Suite No 1 and Brandenburg Concerto No 4 are heard.

AX, KIM, MA
Mon, 11am, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh (031-225 5738)
Ensemble Ax, Young Uck Kim and Yo Yo Ma reunite for Mozart's Trio K 594, Brahms's Trio Op 8 (the revised version, presumably) and Dvorák's Trio Op 85, all for piano, violin and cello.

BRENDEL BEETHOVEN
Mon, 7pm, Albert Hall
Brendel again, this time in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 4. Earlier Sir Charles Groves conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Haydn's "Bear" Symphony (No 82).

MOZART AND MAHLER
Mon 8pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh
The London Philharmonic Orchestra, under Klaus Tennstedt, plays Mozart's Concerto K 218 (Miriam Fried, violin) and Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* (with Brigitte Fassbänder, mezzo soprano, and Hermann Winkel, tenor).

LUTOSLAWSKI'S LIVRE
7.30pm, Albert Hall
Shura Cherkassky solos in Chopin's Concerto No 2 with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Richard Hickox, who also has charge of Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*. Earlier Wlad

COCAINE: KILL COCAINE
reformed to showcase Alvin Lee's Woodstock-style pyrotechnics; Steve Harley will be leading a new Cockney Rebel; and the End promise light relief. Knockabout fun for all ages.

R&B JAMBOREE
Tomorrow, Electric Ballroom, Camden High Street, London NW1
A very promising night indeed, put together by Rock On Records and featuring four American R&B mini-legends of the early 1950s. Two are black saxophonists: Big Jay McNeely and Chuck Higgins. Two are pianists and singers: Young Jessie and Willie Egans.

PEWEEH 103
Tues, Penwith, near St Ives, Cornwall
Despite the absence of surf music (which, given the location, one would have imagined to be a *sine qua non*), this shapes up as one of the outdoor events of the summer. Meatloaf tops the bill with his fascinating reduction of Springsteen, Spector and the Shangri-La's. 1000 follow up, with a lot to grove; Chuck Berry will roll through an unsurpassable repertoire with his customary ear-splitting; and Aswad, the London

Howlett as the ambiguous Caribbean folk hero who started the historic slave uprising.

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA
WHO start their Cardiff season on Fri with a new production by John Copley of *Peter Grimes*, with Richard Armstrong conducting a cast which includes John Mitchinson in the title role and Josephine Barstow as Ellen Orford. The company is operating a new subscription package for Wales and for Birmingham and Bristol: offers for details of money-saving write to Welsh National Opera, John Street, Cardiff (0222 40641).

Dance

NEW YORK CITY BALLET
Tonight and next Sat, the ENO's revival of *Don Giovanni*, conducted by Peter Robinson, which Paul Scrimshaw directed earlier this month. Meanwhile, Jonathan Miller's sword-winning *Madama Butterfly* continues its return run, with its original strong cast now conducted by Noel Davies. Coming to a timely revival of David Blake's important dramatic epic, *Toussaint Louverture*, for performances on Sept 6, 9, 14, 17 and 23 with Neil

Women (Mon-Wed), using music by Schoenberg. Composer Christopher Benstead and choreographer Robert North have worked with Bridget Riley's first stage designs for their new ballet (Thurs-Sat).

KOREAN NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY
Queen Elizabeth Hall (922 3191). Mon to Sat 3 at 7.45pm; matinee Sat at 3pm
Previous visits by dance companies from Korea have been colourful and spectacular, and this one, here under official South Korean auspices, should be no exception.

EDINBURGH FRINGE
Information about a new dance centre, Belford Church Theatre, Douglas Gardens (031 225 9961), arrived too late for inclusion in last week's Edinburgh preview. Its programmes include a solo programme by Michèle Borgeas tonight at 9.30pm, and a new work by Shelley Lee for Basic Space Dance Theatre until Sept 3, Mon-Sat at 7.15pm.

FILMS: David Robinson and Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Dance: John Percival; Rock and Jazz: Richard Williams; Opera: Hilary Finch

Big shots to reclaim the Twilight Zone



Enough to make you peck: Jeremy Licht and Kathleen Quinlan

Aging science-fiction freaks, late-eight television addicts, and devotees everywhere of the American bizarre will be pleased to discover that they are not alone in their predilections. Some of cinema's brightest young things, led by Steve Spielberg and John Landis, have aired their love of one of the best known early television sci-fi series, in a new film version, *The Twilight Zone: The Movie*. The original *Twilight Zone*, the creation of Rod Serling the playwright, was first delivered to a puzzled world in 1959 on CBS, attracting abysmal ratings for its weekly twist-in-the-tale historical.

The *Zone* survived several network attempts to scrap it and ran for five years, gathering as it went a hardcore of fans. Even today, they may be found arguing over whether the series had the advantage of *Outer Limits*, its sci-fi network rival, a debate given a new passing reference in the prologue to the new film.

By today's standards it was pretty weak stuff but the programme was seminal. Spielberg watched it and ended up making *Close Encounters* and *Jaws*. T. Laszlo watched it and turned *An American Werewolf in London*. Between the two of

them they have probably made more money than the total budget for five years of the television series - and certainly more than Serling (who died in 1975) ever received. But one of the privileges of being rich is that it enables you to indulge your fantasies.

The format might have come from the series. A lively prologue leads into four separate

episodes, each introduced by a portentous voice-over. Spielberg has directed a somewhat marvellous piece, in which he attempts to prove that he can direct old people as well as he can direct children. Fortunately, the other three directors do not seem to have forgotten that the most impressive episodes of the television series were those best appreciated while peering fearfully round the back of the sofa.

content, however, is unique. With Matt Dillon, G. Thomas Howell, Ralph Macchio.

RETURN OF THE JEDI (U)
Classic Cinema (332 5095)
Leicester Square Theatre (930 5253)
Odeon Kensington (922 6544)
Studio Oxford Circus (437 3300)
The latest, ultra-sophisticated instalment of George Lucas's *Star Wars* saga, this third adventure describes the rebel commander's new attempt to combat the Galactic Emperor. Directed by Richard Marquand, with Harrison Ford,

THE RISE TO POWER OF LOUIS XIV (U)
Mina, Knightsbridge (235 4225)
extended until Sept 14
Roberto Rossellini, one of the glories of post-war Italian cinema, ended his career making penetrating historical reconstructions. This is easily the most imaginative - an elegant account of Louis XIV's ruthless power games.

SUPERMAN II (PG)
ABC Baywater (228 4148)
ABC Edgware Road (770 5301)
ABC Fulham Road (370 2636)
Studio Oxford Circus (437 3300)
Warner West End (439 0791)
A supercaricature of the comic book hero, this sequel to the first *Superman* film, directed by Richard Lester, is a fun and the splendid spectacle of a spiffy, diabolical Superman.

THE OUTSIDERS (PG)
ABC Edgware Road (770 5301)
ABC Fulham Road (370 2636)
Classic Oxford Street (535 0310)
Warner West End (439 0791)
S.E. Hinton's American classic about Oklahoma adolescence is filmed by Francis Coppola with an outrageous, exhilarating, romantic bloom. Orange slides glow, camera auto-cockeyed angles, Robert Frost is lovingly quoted, and Carmine Coppola's score surrounds the action with a radiant musical halo. The streamlined visuals share the technology of *One from the Heart*; the emotional

of the seductive music. A season of Oshima's films runs at the National Film Theatre, Thurs to Sept 21.

OCTOPUSSY (15)
Classic Cinema (332 5095)
Empire Leicester Square (437 1234)
Odeon Kensington (922 6544)
Odeon Wembley Arch (723 2011/2)
The Bond films have proved their point by selling a billion tickets. Although it is hard nowadays to stay ahead of real-life technology Bond's flying jeeps, fountain-pen lasers, and other toys are still the products of strip-cartoon magic. In the latest episode the essence remains the same, as does the casting of Bond (a new more cautiously dashing Roger Moore), Miss Moneybags (Lois Maxwell) and old Q (Desmond Llewellyn). John Glen directs.

ONE FROM THE HEART (15)
Lumiere, St Martin's Lane (336 0691) until Wed
Francis Coppola's studio-bound musical fantasy offers scanty human feelings and abundant technological fireworks. Lovers and drifters shift positions one holiday weekend in Las Vegas; the heart is unmoved, but the eye is beguiled.

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A monstrous kid who takes his social standards from Warner Brothers cartoons (directed by Landis), a nasty racist getting his come-uppance, and a turn of absurdist brought about by a rather realistic gremlin attempt to provide the substance. These last two are directed by Joe Dante, the Roger Corman protégé who made *The Howling* and *George Miller*, the Australian creator of *Mad Max*. Whatever else happens to *Twilight Zone - The Movie*, Miller's contribution has barred it from ever playing as in-flight entertainment. One suspects that British Airways would still find the outrages of *Airplane* on its customers than the vivid aeronautical excesses which plague the hapless travellers of Miller's imagination. The spirit of the original series may still be there, and the expensive special effects are definitely not cardboard.

David Hewson

The Twilight Zone - The Movie
Screened on Thurs the West End at: ABC Shakespeare Avenue, Fulham Road, Edgware Road, and Baywater, Classic Haymarket and Tottenham Court Road; Warner West End; and Studio Oxford Circus. National release from Sept 8.

Wan Gimes (PG)
Odeon, Leicester Square (330 6111)
The artful story of a boy computer-wizard who locates a secret system programmed to play games ranging from chess to global thermonuclear war. Difficult to dislike; the script adroitly marshals current obsessions inside and outside Hollywood, and both cast and director (John Badham) help to hide the occasional structural flaw.

EDINBURGH FILM FESTIVAL
Fimhouse, Leith Road, Edinburgh (031 225 8382) until Sept 4
Verdi heroes rampaging through plush decor, canoodling insects and dancing rats, family angst on July 4, giant tomatoes - the festival's second week offers something for all tastes. Heroes rampage in Zeffirelli's gorgeous *La Traviata* (tomorrow, at the Playhouse), insects and rats can be found in three programmes resurrecting the forgotten exemplar of puppet animation, Ladislav Starewicz (Mon, Tues). Linea Shakti's *Summer* (Tues) features family turmoil. *The Big Tomato* appears with *Big Meat* later for a late-night org on Thurs. Also worth noting: Ann Hul's *Boat People* (today); Lewis Teague's *Cujo* (today, at the Odeon); *City News* - the fictional struggles of an underground newspaper (Mon); and, from the Danish retrospective, *Boy (Mon)* and *The Ceremony* (Tues). Except where noted, films are shown at Fimhouse.

THE INFORMATION
The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are given in italics and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

Also recommended:
American Graffiti (1973): A potent distillation of adolescent high spirits set in a California town during the rock 'n' rolling early 1960s, and such a huge box-office success that it gave its director, George Lucas, much of the cash he needed to make *Star Wars* (see below). BSC2, tonight, 11pm-12.55am.

Unfaithful Yours (1948): Preston Sturges's sharp-as-a-tack comedy about an orchestral conductor (Rex Harrison) who suspects he is playing second fiddle to the man he is convinced

is after his wife (Linda Darnell) (Channel 4, tonight, 11.05pm-12.55am).

Films on TV

Negatively speaking, *Gaslight* does not exist. It has nothing to do with semantics to say that the supreme screen on Channel 4 tomorrow (2.30-4pm), is possibly the film world's most notable example of two negatives making a positive. Thorold Dickinson's 1939 movie, based on the Patrick Hamilton stage play, was at one time given over for lost. The shocking news that came out of Hollywood in 1944 was that MGM had perpetrated an act of vandalism almost without precedent. Dickinson decided to remake *Gaslight* in 1944, and having acquired the original negative, MGM was reported to have destroyed the negative so that the new version (*Gaslight* in the US, *The Murder in Thornton Square* in Britain) would be around to allow comparisons to be made. Worse, there were rumours that all prints of Dickinson's film had been got rid of, too.

The Murder in Thornton Square, directed by George Cukor, was in some ways (acting, script, décor) superior to *Gaslight*. In other ways (essential claustrophobia, camerawork) it was inferior. Then, in the early 1950s, a minor miracle (major miracle by filmland standards) occurred. Several prints of Dickinson's *Gaslight* turned up in America. Another negative was prepared from them and prints were run off, and soon the film was being re-shown through the US under yet another title, *Angel Street*.

The reviews were, in the main, wildly enthusiastic. Anton Walbrook, as the husband who tries to drive his wife (Diana Wynyard) insane so that he can get his hands on some hidden jewels, was hailed - for the second time round - as a newcoomer of staggering promise. A nonsensical claim, because Walbrook had been adding to his laurels throughout the 1940s with films such as *The Red Shoes*, another Dickinson period film. *Queen of Spades*, and *The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp* to be screened on BBC2 at 1.50pm on Mon).

Peter Davalle

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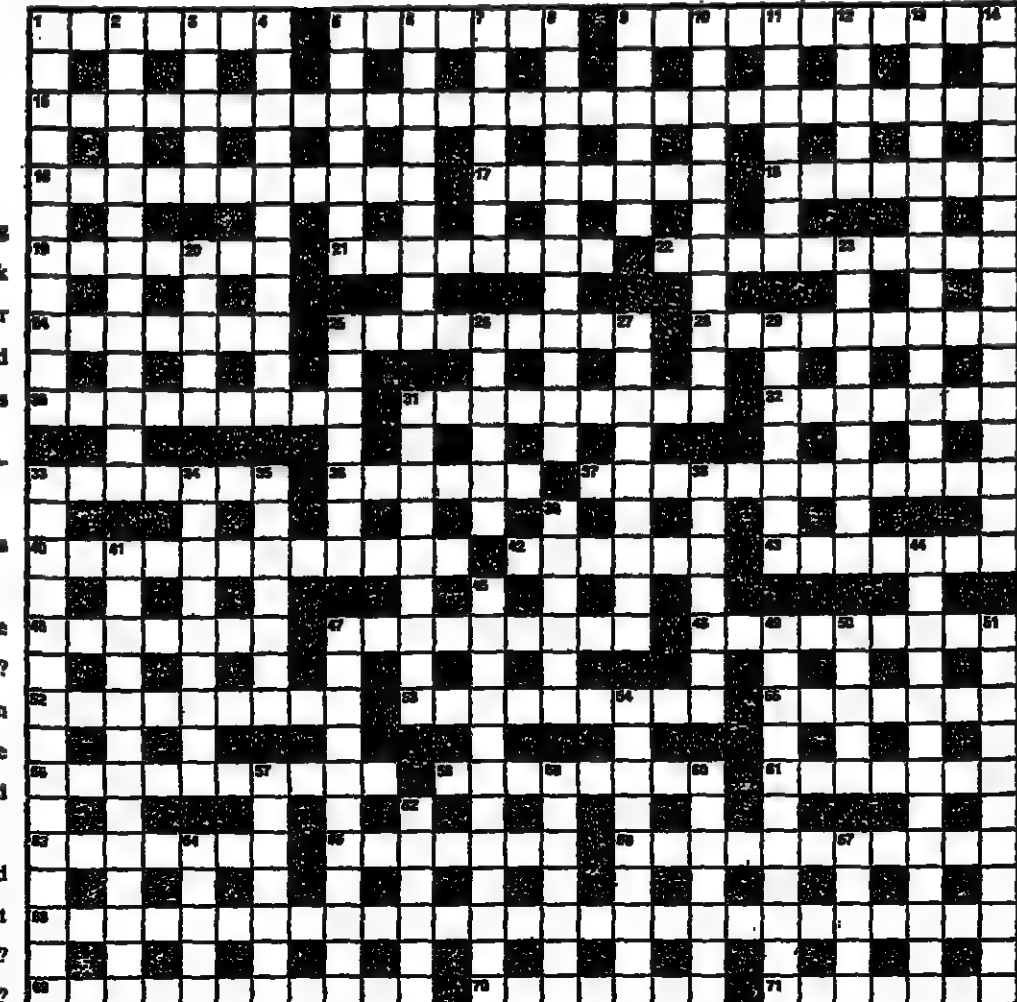
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The Times Jumbo Crossword

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first three correct solutions opened on Tuesday, September 6, 1983. Entries should be addressed to The Times Jumbo Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London, WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, September 10, 1983.

- ACROSS**
- 1 What Chaucer did was in a way no use (7)
 - 5 Note the song "Sunny places" (7)
 - 9 Involves giving pal cosmetic treatment (11)
 - 15 Picture the prize won by the Prince of Arragon (3,8,2,1,8,5)
 - 16 Checking the others on the throne, say? (11)
 - 17 Writer enters dull surroundings of a Dickensian lawyer (7)
 - 18 Transmissions to France over this band of frequencies? (7)
 - 19 That of tobacco for the makings of a cigarette in general (7)
 - 21 A bit of gun, stick, like those in Kaseby's garden (8)
 - 22 See author, a successful one, embrace love (6,4)
 - 24 There it was - that's why one had to tackle it (7)
 - 25 Conversely it's one world power in 200 that's resolving cases of conscience (9)
 - 26 Central ranking above St James (9)
 - 30 Set aside ruin of red revolution, not one being lost (9)
 - 31 Offers for consideration - or for money? (9)
 - 32 Sort of verses e.g. Alice gets involved in (7)
 - 33 OK for drinking, the River Board indicates (7)
 - 36 New car tax as Humpty Dumpty's birthday present (6)
 - 37 Bar course for a singer (7-5)
 - 40 Tendency to be roused by way-out talent round about (12)
 - 42 Feverishly stirring, the double century I made (6)
 - 43 Rejection of the German studies in depressing (7)
 - 46 Barker's land register (7)
 - 47 Simple vehicle - to make the directors happy (9)
 - 48 Barrister so inadequately paid has to starve? (9)
 - 52 By no means living up to being musically dim (3,4)
 - 53 Get back under this cover (9)
 - 54 Modifies in order to raise fruit (7)
 - 56 Amanda and Miranda for instance (10)
 - 58 Places in positions on the line (8)
 - 61 What's found in blood-stream of a moorhen perhaps (7)
 - 63 Tears into sleep and comes a cropper (5,2)
 - 64 Against editor in Baltic port producing old Hindu scripture (3-4)
 - 65 Could it be Severn in NW St (7,4)
 - 68 Man's wrong, naturally, but may receive mercy from the ultimate tribunal (7)
 - 69 How to end the round? A fair way to prove one's strength (4,3,4)
 - 70 Skip, say - one having got away (7)
 - 71 So we think he did it (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Revile a tool that's ruined an outstanding work of art (4-7)
 - 2 Exaggeration concerning what the bank gives you (13)
 - 3 His musical work's taken up over an hour (5)
 - 4 Tried revised version - crazy and damaging (11)
 - 5 With government controlling everything its main need replacement (7)
 - 6 Two or more of them in most cases (9)
 - 7 Says no concerning current safety precautions (7)
 - 8 Sailor on British Rail is this for this (12)
 - 9 Sounds cold? Hence pepper (6)
 - 10 Extra ones added to form accidental crews (4-7)
 - 11 Art-work for E! Count the change (7)
 - 12 Tea all round in the country (5)
 - 13 Appropriate means of surveying a ménage à trois? (13)
 - 14 Do the avengers consult Widsen to do so? (3,6)
 - 20 Prince has a large number always in support (5)
 - 23 Went back to be ticked off about tree damage (9)
 - 25 Final provision of fish here abroad, and Chopin, say? (7)
 - 26 This is nothing but a line on a map (6)
 - 27 Kept company with Albert and Edward (9)
 - 28 Like the soldiers we will remember, and those in Shangri-la (7)
 - 31 Customs sums payable for items bought out of turn (9)
 - 33 Conjuror should have high typing speeds? (15)
 - 34 But can drink make us so meddlesome? (7,2)
 - 35 Trade restriction makes mob rage (7)
 - 36 Part of church service, by Whistler or happy (9)
 - 39 Steal away like Longfellow's Arabs (6)
 - 41 Homer, before including pig in vulture's diet? (7,6)
 - 44 Such is the force of the current (13)
 - 45 Dublin home for Sygne's playboy (5,7)
 - 46 Physique cap is new style - get one, Bruno (6,5)
 - 49 Making money in other words, less initial loss requires bravery (11)
 - 50 A problem for John Gilpin (5)
 - 51 A rudest out judgements (11)
 - 54 Tennis-player before match starts - by whom one is 1 at (7-2)
 - 57 Dead end in which I am out of date (7)
 - 58 The jam-making trade (7)
 - 59 In nurse astir so early? (7)
 - 62 A little finger-trouble again distressed the student (6)
 - 64 Jack's no great swimmer (5)
 - 67 Pretentiousness, we hear, of the estate's new owners (5)

Name
Address



Concise Crossword

Solution in Monday's paper; no prize.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Small compartment (7)
 - 2 Stern maindeck (7)
 - 9 Algebraic constant (11)
 - 15 Three R's (7,3,10)
 - 16 Liability acceptor (11)
 - 18 Change by stages (7)
 - 19 Defensible (7)
 - 21 Likely (8)
 - 22 Calmly cool (10)
 - 24 Heighten (7)
 - 25 Courier (9)
 - 28 At juvenile prison (2,7)
 - 30 Waterproof hat (9)
 - 31 Military manoeuvres (9)
 - 32 Harmful (7)
 - 33 Lively party (5,2)
 - 36 Foot arch (6)
 - 37 Confidential (5,4,3)
 - 40 Deafening (12)
 - 42 Stupid (6)
 - 43 Colours (7)
 - 46 Ill-fated (7)
 - 47 Principal yard support (9)
 - 48 Unhappy (9)
 - 52 Naked (2,7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Dishonesty (11)
 - 2 Lodging place (8,5)
 - 3 Announcer (5)
 - 4 Gluttony (11)
 - 5 Mast platform (7)
 - 6 Lament (9)
 - 7 Memory loss (7)
 - 8 Bequeath (5,1,6)
 - 9 Spurred (6)
 - 10 Musical movements (11)
 - 11 Weariness (7)
 - 12 Peace mark (6)
 - 13 Remove a molar (7,1,5)
 - 14 Railway official (6,9)
 - 15 Drunken spree (5)
 - 16 Cautious (9)
 - 17 Follower of Marx (7)
 - 18 Cricketer (6)
 - 19 Reverberation (9)
 - 20 Stranded instruments (7)
 - 21 Vial (9)
 - 22 Deliver sermon (6)
 - 23 Rebuilt (13)
 - 24 Secured cell (6,7)
 - 25 Subbornness (11)
 - 26 Praiseworthy (11)
 - 27 Strainer (5)
 - 28 Big game (5,6)
 - 29 Narrow pennant (9)
 - 30 Enriched (7)
 - 31 Interpret incorrectly (7)
 - 32 Circuit breakers (7)
 - 33 Indian dwelling (6)
 - 34 Inductive guess (5)
 - 35 Expert (6)

Two copies of the New Collins Concise English dictionary will be given for the Concise crossword, which will be appearing in the Saturday section from next Saturday.

Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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London WC1X 8EZ
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 722.1 up 4.7
 FT 100: 79.60 down 0.11
 FT All Share: 457.31 down 0.83
 Bargains: 18,578
 Datastream USM Leaders
 Index: 100.58 up 0.58
 New York: Dow Jones
 Average (latest): 1188.41 up 2.35
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
 Index 9145.54 down 2.47
 Hongkong: Hang Seng
 Index 581.80 down 0.11
 Amsterdam: 147 up 0.4
 Sydney: AO Index 696.7
 down 0.8
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank
 Index 927.50 down 5.80
 Brussels: General Index
 133.44 down 0.01
 Paris: CAC Index 136.7
 down 1.0
 Zurich: SKA General Index
 284 down 1.2

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5015 down 65pts
 Index 84.8 up 0.1
 DM 4.0070
 Fr 12.0500
 Yen 369.50
 Dollar
 Index 128.8 up 1.2
 DM 2.6630
NEW YORK LATEST
 Sterling \$1.5035
INTERNATIONAL
 ECUR 569122
 SDR20.698060

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rates 9 1/2
 Finance houses base rate 10
 Discount market loans week
 fixed 9 1/2
 3 month interbank 9-9 1/2
Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 10 1/2-10 3/4
 3 month DM 5 1/2-5 3/4
 3 month Fr 15 1/2-15 3/4
US rates:
 Bank prime rate 11.00
 Fed funds 9 1/2
 Treasury long bond 10 3/4-10 1/2
ECB Fixed Rate Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period July 6 to August
 2, 1993 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
 am \$419.25 pm \$417.00
 close \$417.75
 New York latest: \$417.00
 Krugerrand (per coin):
 \$430.50-432.00 (\$287-288)
 Sovereigns (new):
 \$98.25-99.25 (\$65.50-66.25)
 *Excludes VAT

NOTEBOOK

L. M. Ericsson, the Swedish electronics group, reported that net earnings per share rose by a quarter in the first half-year to Skr10.8. Pretax profits reached Skr758m (\$54m) compared with Skr678m. The company normally does better in the second half and should be helped by the devaluation of the Krona and improving North American sales.

Wagon Finance, the Sheffield hire purchase house, raised interim pretax profits from £257,000 to £457,000. But the company does not expect this rate of increase in the second half. The market was disappointed and marked the shares down 9p to 45p.

Page 12

Bermuda stake
for Fraser

House of Fraser is paying £230,000 for a 2.77 per cent stake in Hopewell International, the off-shore reinsurance company, in Bermuda. Hopewell has taken part of the store's group risk on its £1bn insurance on properties for nearly three years.

Volvo of Sweden has sold 28 purpose-built police cars to Saudi Arabia in its largest foreign order for the model. The order is thought to be worth about 20m to 25m kroner (£1.7m to £2.2m).

● Middle East Airlines 1982 annual report shows a net loss of \$40m (£27m) because of the fighting in Lebanon and particularly the closure of Beirut international airport for 115 days.

● South Africa's trade surplus more than doubled to R396.1m (£352m) last month from June's R242.8m. July's exports rose to R1.72bn from R1.69m in June, while imports fell to R1.12bn from R1.45bn.

● ICI Australia is to make a one-for-three rights issue of 51.00 shares at \$1.60 each to raise \$81.6m (£61.67 million). The issue of 61.67 million shares will raise \$98.7m (£58m).

BSC could be main beneficiary of second phase

British companies poised to win
£1bn North Sea oil contracts

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

British industry is poised to win more than £1bn worth of business from a revitalized North Sea oil industry.

Contracts worth more than £2bn are about to be placed as the North Sea industry enters the second phase of its development. British Steel, which this week reopened its Hartlepool pipeworks to meet a North Sea order from Shell, could be the main beneficiary.

The rig and platform-building industry, which has been starved of orders for five years and has laid-off several hundred skilled workers, will be invited to tender for three big contracts. The contracts are for the second phase of the Marathon

Brace oilfield, a development of the Beatrice oilfield and, significantly, the programme to prolong the life of the Norwegian Ekofisk oilfield.

The Marathon order could be worth £1bn to the offshore industry. Marathon anticipates that as much as 74 per cent could be met by British companies. The Norwegian order involves 40,000 tonnes of steel fabrication because of the size of the contract, the Ekofisk group will have to go outside Norway for the first time.

British industry is well placed to meet the Norwegian order on costs and delivery terms, but faces opposition from the Dutch who have also seen their

offshore industry's order-book contract.

The southern North Sea gasfields are also entering a new phase of development, with orders for pipe-line equipment and production-platform supplies about to be placed.

The World Petroleum Companies, which open in London tomorrow, will underline the importance of North Sea technology to the world oil business. With Britain moving into deep water exploration, new techniques are being sold to foreign oil industries, bringing in substantial foreign earnings.

Oil officials from China, which has already awarded the first three offshore exploration

contracts to companies with substantial British involvement, will be among the 3,000 world energy delegates from 80 countries attending the Congress.

This is the first time that the Congress has been held in Britain since the inaugural meeting in 1933. It will be officially opened by the Prince of Wales at the Albert Hall, before it moves to the Barbican for the week's working sessions.

The Prince will be presented with the honorary fellowship of the Institute of Petroleum by its president, Mr Alan Gregor, chairman of BP Oil.

The Chinese oil minister will take part in discussions later in the week and the Russian

minister of Energy will also take part in technical discussions. Papers will be presented by 135 oil industry experts, and 53 technical sessions will discuss how the oil industry can help the world economy in the coming years.

One session will attempt to answer the question: "Just how much oil is there really left?"

The president of the Congress, Dr W von Harnmann, of West Germany, said yesterday: "The proceedings will produce a comprehensive picture of the ways in which petroleum technology can assist in shaping industry as we move into the 21st century."

Bournes losses put
Raybeck into red

By Jonathan Clark

The spiralling losses of Bournes, the Oxford Street department store, forced Raybeck into the red last year.

Raybeck, built up by Mr Ben Raven, its chairman, includes the Lord John, Lady at Lord John and Berkatex chains of shops, lost £1.4m against profits of £15,000 when property profits of £973,000 (£292,000 last time) are stripped out.

Even at the pretax level the company saw a turnaround in its fortunes of nearly £1m from profits of £507,000 to a loss of £457,000.

Bournes has been a millstone for Raybeck almost since it was acquired for £12m in 1978. The costs to Raybeck have increased further over the last year because a deal with institutions to buy it fell through at the last minute. The closure of the store had already been announced but the failure of the sale meant that it had to keep trading leading to gibes about "the longest ever closing down sale".

Raybeck had to keep paying rent of £900,000 for an extra year until Bournes finally closed last Saturday. But the premature announcement of closure affected turnover and is reflected in the figures published yesterday. Bournes will be paid £400,000 for its lease by the freeholders, Equitable Life and Scottish Amicable, two life assurance companies.

The £400,000 will offset the



Raven: Bournes was a millstone for Raybeck.

Raybeck Year to 30.4.83
 Pretax profits £507,000
 Turnover £28m (£26m)
 Net total dividend nil (2.28p)
 Share price 34p (no change)

closure costs of Bournes to give a net extraordinary debit of £1.7m.

Bournes, formerly called Bourne & Hollingsworth, was hit by the decline of Oxford Street as tourists drifted away and higher prices after VAT increased.

Retail sales, boosted throughout May, June, July and August, should make Raybeck profitable this year and could return it to the dividend list.

BPCC bid
tactic to be
examined

By Andrew Cornes

The Takeover Panel is investigating complaints about the tactics adopted by Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communication Corporation in its attempt to win control of John Waddington, the Monopoly games company.

The complaints were made by Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank advisers to Waddington. They claim that BPCC representatives had phoned Waddington shareholders claiming that BPCC had a higher percentage of acceptances for its bid than the true figure. If this were true it would represent a serious breach of Rule 24 of the City Takeover Code which lays down the ground rules governing declarations on acceptances during a bid.

Last night Mr John Higgett, director general of the Panel, said that he was treating the complaints "very seriously".

However, he said that no decision would be taken on whether to call a full meeting of the Panel to investigate the complaint until he had received written evidence from three Waddington shareholders who claim to have been called by BPCC representatives last Thursday evening.

Mr Victor Watson, chairman of Waddington, first drew attention to the complaint after speaking to Mrs Jane Whitley, a Waddington shareholder living in Yorkshire. Mr Watson said that Mrs Whitley claimed to have received a phone call on Thursday from someone claiming to represent BPCC.

According to Mr Watson the caller claimed that BPCC had won acceptances representing 49.1 per cent of Waddington's share capital.

However, BPCC announced yesterday that it was extending its takeover offer for Waddington until September 7. The offer was due to close today.

Meanwhile, Waddington claimed to have the support of more than half of its shareholders against Mr Maxwell.

Waddington said that it had been notified of withdrawals totalling 6.8 per cent of its shares from shareholders who had previously accepted BPCC offer terms.

BPCC countered with the news that it had received more acceptances for its offer and now owns or controls 43.7 per cent of the Waddington shares.

Pound slips further
against dollar

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sterling recovered ground against continental currencies yesterday but was slightly down against a strong United States dollar.

After its bout of weakness because of poor July trade figures, the pound climbed back against the Deutschmark through DM4, although dealers said that covering of short positions accounted for part of the rise.

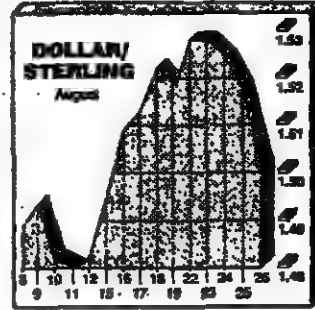
Sterling closed up just over 3 pence against the French franc at FF12.05. Its trade-weighted value was up 0.1 at \$4.8.

However, against the dollar, the pound slipped 65 points to \$1.5015 having fallen below \$1.50 earlier in the day. The dollar's strength reflected the usual end-of-week jitters over yesterday's US money supply figures.

Although another fall in M1 had been widely expected during the week, the Federal Reserve's action on Thursday to tighten liquidity led to fears that the money supply could be worse than previously expected.

At one stage the dollar moved above DM2.67, but it closed at DM2.6630, and nearly 7 cents firmer against the French currency at FF8.0125.

Dealers said the dollar was also helped by remarks from the West German Chancellor, Herr Helmut Kohl, that United States interest rates and the dollar would stay high until next year's United States presidential elections.



The Federal Reserve's action in Thursday pushed up the key Fed funds rate, which at one stage during the week had slipped below 9 per cent.

Yesterday, Fed funds moved back to around 9 3/8 per cent compared with 9 1/8 per cent on Thursday.

There was also some firming of Eurodollar interest rates yesterday. Although rates closed below their high points, there were net gains of 1/8 to 1/16 per cent.

● The United States basic money supply is estimated to have declined by \$800m in the week ending August 17, according to the average of forecasts of 15 leading economists surveyed by Dow Jones Capital Markets Report.

A drop of \$300m in M1 would put the narrow money measure within the Federal Reserve's new target range for the first time. The Fed's long-run M1 growth target is 5 to 9 per cent for the rest of the year.

WALL STREET

Recovery
after sharp
Dow fall

New York (Reuters) - Prices fell sharply in early trading yesterday as investors reacted to news of tighter monetary policy.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 6.20 points to 1178.86 the first 45 minutes of trading but rose 2.35 points. Volume totalled about 12 million shares.

Eastman Kodak was down 2-3/4 at 65 3/4 after a rise of 1 7/8 yesterday. After the close yesterday Kodak said it would show a profit improvement next year. It said margins and profits during the second half of this year were being squeezed by the rise in the US dollar.

International Business Machines was up 1-3/4 at 49 Lockhead up 1 at 67 7/8 NCR up 1-3/8 at 115 1/4 Teletype up 5 at 155 1/8 Rohm and Haas up 1-1/4 at 65. Watkins Johnson down 1-3/4 at 71 1/4 Alcoa Aluminium off 1-1/2 at 36 1/8 and Northwest Industries up 1-1/8 to 41 5/8.

Atlantic Richfield was 49 3/4 unchanged Allied Corp 50 1/4 down 1/4 at 51 1/4 Eastman Kodak 65 3/8 down 2 3/4 at 68 1/4 Zayre Corp 42 3/4 up 1-1/2 at 43 1/2 Mobil 32 3/8 unchanged American Telephone and Telegraph 65 1/8 up 3/8 and General Electric 47 1/2 up 1/4.

Meriden dream ends at last

The Triumph Motor Cycle worker co-operative at Meriden, near Coventry, was finally wound up yesterday. Two hundred creditors including many former employees, approved the appointment of joint liquidators.

The co-operative has debts of £3.8m and assets of no more than £1.2m.

Mr Alastair Jones, one of the liquidators, said that on the

basis of the figures presented at yesterday's two-hour meeting, the many unsecured creditors, who are owed more than £2.5m, would not receive anything from their investment. The only secured creditor, NatWest, is owed £1.3m but how much it will get back depends on the sale of the site.

Triumph directors have received several offers, one believed to be of about £1m

from builders who want to turn the site into a housing estate. The 180 workers at the factory, which has not produced a motor-cycle since February, decided two weeks ago that all hope of salvaging the business had gone and voted to call in a liquidator.

It was one of several co-operatives established in the 1970s when Mr Wedgwood Benn was Industry Secretary. One by one, the others fell by the wayside.

AN OFFER FROM M&G
UNIT TRUSTS

Unit trusts provide the best way for most people to share in the rewards and risks of the stock market. They are run by full-time professionals and the risks are minimised by investing in a wide spread of shares, held by a Trustee.

Unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice. The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

M&G (who founded unit trusts in Britain) are involved in the management of funds totalling some £1,500 million. The six Funds below may have particular appeal in the present investment climate.

AMERICAN SMALLER COMPANIES FUND A new Fund with the sole objective of long-term capital growth through investment in companies which are small today but have the potential for growing up into the household names of tomorrow. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank PLC. Distribution: 7th March and 7th September, starting on 7th March 1984.

COMPOUND GROWTH FUND The Fund invests for capital growth in a compact portfolio of shares in companies with proven management, but a reputation may be needed in the United Kingdom Market (USA). Trustee: Barclays Bank Ltd. Distribution: 20th February and 20th August (next distribution on 20th February 1984).

RECOVERY FUND Invests for capital growth in companies which have fallen on hard times, a "speculative" policy which has proved very successful in the past. Losses must be accepted when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic. Trustee: Barclays Bank Ltd. Distribution: 20th February and 20th August (next distribution on 20th February 1984).

JAPAN AND GENERAL FUND Invests in a wide range of Japanese securities, encompassing all aspects of the economy; the collection of long-term capital growth, although its performance may be volatile. Trustee: Lloyd's Bank PLC. Distribution: 20th February and 20th August (next distribution on 20th February 1984).

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Hawley's Ashcroft joins
board of Miss World

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Michael Ashcroft, chairman of the Hawley Group, is joining the board of the Miss World Group.

Hawley Group owns 22 per cent of Miss World, which was launched on the Unlisted Securities Market in April. The company has been building up its stake, fuelling City speculation that it is considering a full-scale bid.

Mr Eric Morley, the Miss World chairman, and his wife Mrs Julia Morley, own 51.28 per cent of the company. Mr Morley said: "Mr Ashcroft has a considerable reputation as a successful businessman and entrepreneur and the directors feel he will be a valuable addition to the board."

The Miss World organization yesterday reported pretax profits of £93,300 on a £335,000 turnover for the first six months of the year. An interim dividend of 1p has been declared. There are no comparative figures because of a change in the end of the financial year.

Most of the group's profits come from the Miss World and Miss UK competitions, which take place in the second half of the year.

The Miss World Group is ahead of budget and on target for the minimum £300,000 pretax profits forecast when the company was launched.

The groups shares jumped another 7p to 170p on the results.

However, BPCC announced yesterday that it was extending its takeover offer for Waddington until September 7. The offer was due to close today.

Meanwhile, Waddington claimed to have the support of more than half of its shareholders against Mr Maxwell.

Waddington said that it had been notified of withdrawals totalling 6.8 per cent of its shares from shareholders who had previously accepted BPCC offer terms.

BPCC countered with the news that it had received more acceptances for its offer and now owns or controls 43.7 per cent of the Waddington shares.</

Krugerrands

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Home loans

Letter

True costs of Public Trustee

From The Public Trustee, Sir, in the Family Money section of August 20, you compare the annual administrative charges of the banks, the Public Trustee, and Dearden Farrow. I cannot comment on the fees of the banks, but the fees you quote for my office are considerably overstated. The correct figures are:

Trust Value	Fee
50,000	£2.25
100,000	2.12
250,000	4.38
500,000	8.75

It may be that Messrs Dearden Farrow have included in these calculations items other than our annual administrative charge in an ongoing trust. Yours faithfully, JOHN BOLAND Public Trustee, The Public Trustee, Stewart House, Kingsway, London WC2.

Marathon sponsor

Nationwide Building Society is sponsoring the London Marathon and will be making cash awards to the first three male club teams, both men and women, who complete the course. It will also be handing all entry forms, which will be available from any of Nationwide's 515 main branches or any of its 800 agency branches. Forms will be available from Monday, September 5 until Friday, September 30. Entrants will have to pay a £2, non-refundable donation to the marathon organisers which will go towards the provision of recreational facilities in London but does not guarantee a place in the race.

Expatriates help

Going to live or work abroad causes a number of problems, many of them associated with tax. The Inland Revenue has just updated its Residents and Non-Residents Liability to Tax in the United Kingdom (R20) a useful guide to what you can and cannot do if you want to make sure you pay as little tax as possible in Britain. It is available free from local tax offices and from PAYE inquiry offices.

Aid for newcomers

Under Hamlyn, the City accountancy firm, has published a simple guide on income and capital taxation, designed for

the owners/managers of new businesses. There is likely to be a big demand for the publication as more and more companies are established. Accountants are an excellent source for free advice on taxation problems and most of the large firms have a variety of booklets available free to people who write to them.

College cover

An insurance policy for students which gives cover at reduced rates for young people who want to insure their belongings during term time is available from the Oxford-based broker E. Harrison. For £9.50 a year a student can obtain cover up to £1,000 for their, fire or loss on the premises of the college. A normal policy providing year-round cover, at any place of residence in Britain and up to 60 days on the Continent costs £17 a year.

Student accounts

Discount vouchers producing savings of up to £120 are one of the features of the TSB's new Young Adults package. It also includes free banking for school leavers for three years for those aged between 15 and 18. The account has to be kept in credit (not overdrawn) to qualify. TSB is also giving an automatic cheque guarantee facility once the first regular wage or salary cheque has been paid

into the account. There is also a Speedbank card for cash withdrawal. Students are offered free banking while they are in full time study and for one year after - provided, says TSB, rather ominously, "The account is operated satisfactorily". Students will also get automatic cheque guarantee cards once the first grant cheque has been paid. A loan of up to £500 is available "at the manager's discretion" for those who have completed at least three years' further full time education. Full details from local TSB branches.

Smoke cover

Householders who have an insurance claim are often surprised to discover that damage caused by smoke is not included in their cover.

Provincial Insurance has been updating its Homeowner contents policy and among the improvements it has introduced is the exclusion for smoke damage. Other features include an increase in the amount of rent and hotel expenses if your home becomes uninhabitable, and an uprating of the cover for personal oney to £250 with £500 for misuse of credit cards or cheque cards. On the minus side, policyholders who have their bicycles stolen as a result of not locking it will no longer be covered and the thief simply removes headlights or wheels (even if it is padlocked) Provincial will not pay.



Penny fund

Fortunes have been made and lost in penny shares, according to Mr Freddy Lawson, above, who this week launched his penny share fund, Possiden. Polly Pack and London and Liverpool were all penny shares but Mr Lawson gives a warning that this is a highly speculative unit trust and recommends that investors commit only a small proportion of their savings. "We will be investing in shares like

Edenspring, Scott & Robertson and Fulcrum Capital", says Mr Lawson who has a list of 50 or more potential investments.

Abbey looks abroad

Abbey Life's managed fund, one of the biggest in the market at over £84m, is broadening its portfolio by including overseas investment. Up to 20 per cent will soon go into North America and Japan. The Managed fund has already started making overseas investments through the Abbey American Growth Fund and Abbey Japan Fund.

Lloyds' best bet

Lloyds Bank is recommending its Worldwide Growth Unit Trust as the best bet for would-be investors. The trust has roughly 60 per cent of its assets overseas, invested mainly in blue chip companies, with 32 per cent in North America and 14 per cent in Japan.

US-guaranteed

Guaranteed income bonds are always a popular choice with those dependent on return from investments to pay

overheads. Investment advisers R.J. Temple of Brighton have special offer of income bonds from Sentry Assurance International, paying 10 per cent net of basic rate tax over a five-year term. This is equivalent to 14.28 per cent to a basic rate taxpayer. The offer closes on September 9.

Potential investors should bear in mind that, because Sentry is an American insurance company they will not be covered by the provisions of the Policyholders Protection Act. Investors who prefer total security might opt for TSB's new five-year Income Bond. The return of 9 per cent net of basic rate tax is not so generous but it will not cause you any sleepless nights. Minimum investment in the Sentry bond is £1,500 and in the TSB bond, £1,000.

Business hints

Self employment is an increasingly popular way of avoiding the dole queue but too many small businesses fail within their first five years. Help is at hand from the Self-Employment Factbook published by Cambridge based Great Ouse Press. It covers all the questions asked by people running their own business including setting up, borrowing money, accountants and solicitors, government help, tax and national insurance as well as VAT, book-keeping and accounts. It is written by a Cambridge accountant, Nigel Prentice.

Your bank statement on demand

Account holders with Royal Bank of Scotland and its English subsidiary, Williams & Glyn's, will soon be able to get a 'mini bank' statement at the press of a button. The statements, giving up to the last six months and the balance on customers' accounts will be available from any of the group's 440 cash-dispenser machines. The service already available in Scotland, is now being extended nationwide. Some of the other banks already provide customers with a balance inquiries service but this is the first time bank customers will be able to obtain information on recent transactions. As part of the new package, Royal Bank and Williams & Glyn's will also allow customers to order a new cheque book and draw cash on their Access cards from the Cashlink machines, although some other banks already offer these services.

Amex cheques for visitors to the Gulf

Frequent visitors to the Gulf will be pleased to know that travellers cheques in Saudi riyals are now available from American Express offices in Britain. Issued by the Saudi Travelers Cheque Company, a joint venture between eight Saudi banks and American Express, the cheques will be available in denominations of SR50, SR500 and SR1,000. HFC Trust is to make Thomas Cook sterling travellers cheques available in its 155 branches and is also to introduce a range of eight currencies. Minimum sale of travellers cheques will be £50 and the commission charge is the standard 1 per cent with a minimum charge of £1 per transaction.

Balancing the borrowers' scales

Halifax and Leeds Permanent building societies are reintroducing differential mortgage rates - the system whereby the more you borrow the higher the interest rate on repayments. Halifax's new rates will operate from September 1 and Leeds' take effect from October 4, bringing to an end the short-lived era of cheap loans for those with big mortgages. Nationwide and Anglia are to review their policies in early September. Only Woolwich remains adamant that it has no intention of reintroducing differentials.

With demand for home loans showing no sign of abating, it seems likely that all the big societies will come into line. If Woolwich remains out on a limb as the only big society to charge a flat rate of 11.25 per cent, it is likely to find itself swamped with applications for loans. Woolwich, in common with all the big societies and many of the smaller ones, has launched a two-year term share paying 9 per cent net of basic rate tax and it is this raising of investment rates and the average cost of societies' money that has forced Halifax and Leeds to bring back mortgage differentials.

From September 1 all the big societies will be offering two-year term shares paying 9 per cent net of basic rate tax and it is this raising of investment rates and the average cost of societies' money that has forced Halifax and Leeds to bring back mortgage differentials. Though cash for home loans should become easier to obtain the table shows that with the reintroduction of differential mortgage rates, it will pay to shop around, if you are lucky enough to have a choice. For example, borrowers wanting a £55,000 loan will pay 12.75 per cent for their money from the Halifax, Leeds, and Alliance, but only 12.25 per cent from National & Provincial, and Anglia, and the basic rate of 11.25 per cent from Nationwide and Woolwich (though how much longer they

We have got a tranche of £500,000 which is available at 11.25 per cent for people who want home loans of over £25,000

"We have got a tranche of £500,000 which is available at 11.25 per cent for people who want home loans of over £25,000," Mr Paul Marks of Chase de Vere confirmed. This is likely to be used up very fast so would be house purchasers should waste no time. "We may be able to obtain more for lending at these rates, but otherwise we can arrange loans for virtually any amount over £25,000 at 12 to 12.5 per cent", he said.

The mortgage repayment tables show how significant the higher rates become for bigger borrowers, particularly for those wanting loans over £25,000, as they still have to make gross repayments and claim interest relief from the taxman. But what is bad for borrowers is always good news for investors and the new term shares paying 9 per cent basic rate tax paid look attractive. Best buy here looks like Town and Country's Super Term share which pays 9 per cent net of basic rate tax but interest is compounded half-yearly, giving a return of 9.2 per cent. Town and Country also has a modest minimum of £500 and



For sale: houses galore, but cheap mortgages will be harder to come by offers a monthly income facility for investments of £1,000 or more. The differential of 1.75 per cent over the ordinary share rate of 7.25 per cent is in all cases guaranteed, but investors should remember that if building society rates come down, term share rates will follow suit.

The interest rate is not fixed. ● Chase de Vere, 125 Pall Mall, SW1. Telephone 01-930 7242. Lorna Bourke

***Monthly Mortgage Repayments Over 25 Years**

Loan	11.25	11.5	11.75	12.0	12.25	12.5	12.75	13.0
15,000	118.10	117.80	119.70	121.20	123.30	124.80	126.75	128.40
20,000	154.80	154.60	156.80	158.40	160.40	162.40	164.40	166.40
25,000	193.50	193.00	195.50	197.20	199.20	201.20	203.20	205.20
30,000	232.20	231.50	234.00	235.80	237.80	239.80	241.80	243.80
40,000	309.60	308.60	311.20	313.60	316.00	318.40	320.80	323.20
50,000	387.00	385.70	388.50	390.80	393.20	395.60	398.00	400.40
60,000	464.40	462.80	465.80	468.20	470.60	473.00	475.40	477.80
70,000	541.80	539.90	543.00	545.40	547.80	550.20	552.60	555.00
80,000	619.20	617.00	620.20	622.60	625.00	627.40	629.80	632.20
90,000	696.60	694.10	697.40	699.80	702.20	704.60	707.00	709.40
100,000	774.00	771.20	774.60	777.00	779.40	781.80	784.20	786.60

THE COST OF A HOME LOAN

Building Society	Differential mortgage rates	Availability of loans	Comments
Alliance	Up to 25,000 : 11.25% 25-30,000 : 11.75% 30-50,000 : 12.25% 50-100,000 : 12.75% 100-125,000 : 13.25%	Does not operate a queue system. People know immediately whether they can have a mortgage	Subject to normal valuations
Anglia	Up to 25,000 : 11.25% 25,000+ : 11.75%	Customers can wait between 8-12 weeks	Will be reviewing future structure
Abbey National	Up to 25,000 : 11.25% 25,000+ : 11.75%	Operates a cheque release date of 8-9 weeks	Did not give up differentials
Leeds	Up to 25,000 : 11.25% Up to 30,000 : 12.25% 30-35,000 : 12.75% 35-40,000 : 13.25%	Varies considerably. Average wait 12 weeks (between 4-35 weeks)	These rates will operate until 4 October 1983
National & Provincial	Up to 25,000 : 11.25% Over 25,000 : 11.75% Over 50,000 : 12.25%	Works with 8 weeks business in hand	The board will be meeting within the next two weeks to discuss the change in differentials
Woolwich	11.25% across the board	Average waiting period 6-8 weeks	No plans to reintroduce differentials
Halifax	Up to 25,000 : 11.25% 25-30,000 : 11.75% 30-35,000 : 12.25% Over 35,000 : 12.75%	Customers can wait from 2-6 weeks. Average: 4 weeks	Rates to be introduced next 1 September, 1983
Nationwide	11.25% across the board	8 weeks	Board meeting early in September to discuss the reintroduction of differentials

Mortgages Tax traps to net house buyers

Nearly everyone knows that the owner-occupied house is one of the sacred cows of the British tax system. It is, however, hedged in by one of the thickest jungles with vicious tax traps designed to catch the lucky and successful, as well as the unwary. The traps range from stamp duty, which is unavoidable, to capital gains tax, levied on a second home (and even a first if it has been used for letting or business) to development land and someone else re-zones the area for planning permission purposes. There is tax exemption if the sale proceeds are below £25,000 and lower rates up to £40,000 when the rate becomes 2 per cent.

The important thing to bear in mind is that the rules do not apply in tranches but to the whole of the sale price. For example, on a house valued at £41,500, divide it into £39,000 for the price of the house and £2,500 for the fixtures and fittings and half per cent is saved on £40,000 and 2 per cent on £1,500.

There is a complicated avoidance technique, not commonly used, but its efficacy is untested. Gone are the balmy days when all interest paid by individuals was deductible for tax purposes and now it is limited according to the purpose for which the loan is raised. One of those purposes is the purchase, improvement or development (for example, extensions) of property where that property is, at the time the interest is paid, used as the only or main residence of the borrower, a dependent relative (widowed mothers are always dependent, for some reason) or a separated or former spouse.

One other point to observe is that the money must be applied for the purchase improvement or development of the property immediately after having been drawn down from the lender. There is, however, concession- any treatment if the loan is drawn down and placed on deposit temporarily. But the general rule disallows interest for second mortgages. Bridging loans also attract relief for a period of one year. This period can be extended at the discretion of the Inland Revenue, although they have not indicated when this discretion would be used. In principle, however, the bridging loan provisions do allow for total mortgages of £50,000 to be outstanding, with a maximum of £30,000 each, for a period of 12 months, provided the taxpayer owns two properties and the mortgage is split between them. Similarly, on marriage, double deduction will be allowed to continue for a 12 month period by concession. This is an area in which it is wise to seek statutory material (see Inland Revenue Practices and Concessions, Oyez Longman Publishing Ltd.).

Meanwhile, it is worth remembering that no basic rate tax deduction can be made under Mortgage Interest Relief At Source (MIRAS) where the loan in question exceeds £30,000. Interim relief can therefore only be obtained by ensuring that the coding notice is suitably amended at the earliest opportunity. The lenders will normally issue the necessary paper to arrange this, but will not chase the borrower who does not deal with it. Like Caesar, the Inland Revenue administrative machine needs a regular supply of buff coloured forms rendered to it to keep working.

In any event, even if the interest payments qualify for the MIRAS treatment, it is still necessary for the higher-rate taxpayer with income over £14,600, after interest deductions and personal allowances, to obtain relief from higher rates of tax on mortgage interest through the coding notice where Schedule E (employed taxpayers) applies.

David Tallon

Still more interest.

CHELTENHAM GOLD
8.25% 11.79%
net 8.25% gross 11.79%

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The Cheltenham & Gloucester is still the only major national building society to offer a full 1% extra interest with no strings at all. Invest £1000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Account and we'll give you 1% extra interest paid annually plus 100% freedom to withdraw money immediately without any advance notice or loss of interest. Fall below £1000 and you still earn 7.25% net 10.36% gross.

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You'll find your local branch in Yellow Pages. If there's no branch handy, use the coupon to open either of the Cheltenham Gold Accounts by Post. You can pay in or withdraw as you like. We pay the first class postage. Whichever way you choose, it's your first step to total freedom.

Send this coupon to: C&G Building Society, PO Box 124 FREEPOST, Cheltenham, Glos. GL53 7PW.

I/we enclose £..... to open a Gold By Post Account (Minimum £1000, Maximum £30,000, Joint Account £60,000).

I/we enclose £..... to open a Gold Monthly Interest Account By Post (Minimum £5000, Maximum £50,000, Joint Account £60,000). □ Please send more details.

Full name(s) Mr/Ms/Miss..... (Block Capitals)

Address.....

Postcode.....

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society

Chief Office: Cheltenham House, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 3JR. Tel: 0243 36161. Member of the Building Societies Association. Over 450 Branches and Agents. Assets exceed £1432 million. *Current rates. The rate of interest paid on the Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account may vary from that paid on the Cheltenham Gold Account. *Gross equivalent for basic rate tax payers.

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Nationwide Building Society

Placing of £12,500,000 11per cent Bonds due 3rd September 1984

Listing for the bonds has been granted by the Council of The Stock Exchange. Particulars in relation to The Nationwide Building Society are available in the Extel Statistical Services. Copies of the placing Memorandum may be obtained from:-

Fulton Packshaw Ltd., 34-40 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7JT. Laurie, Milbank & Co., 72/73 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DP. Rowe & Pitman, City-Gate House, 39-45 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1JA.

AVERAGE Return:

66.62%
in one year.

In our August 1982 Investment Action Report, we drew our clients' attention to just FOUR recommended unit trusts. According to Planned Savings Statistics (August 1983), these were the performances of our recommended trusts:-

	Value of a £5,000 investment
GT Technology & Growth	£10,500
Proflite North American	£10,355
Legal & General Gilt Trust	£6,440
Gordon UK Smaller Companies Recovery	£6,050

It's worth noting that these trusts were ALL available at an exclusive 1% discount.

To judge how good these figures are, look at the returns in a building society over the same period. A £5,000 investment would have produced £353 for a basic rate taxpayer and even less for a higher rate taxpayer.

If you'd like to know what the Investment Action Report is recommending now, send for your free copy without delay. N.B. It should be remembered that unit values can fall as well as rise. While past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, the skills of the management groups involved are clearly well above average.

To: Julian Gibbs Associates. T18A 27/8. A member of the Reed Stenhouse Group. FREEPOST, London SW1W 0BR (no stamp required). Tel: London: 01-730 8221. Aberdeen: 0224 640460. Bristol: 0272 294531. Edinburgh: 031-225 9528. Glasgow: 041-248 5070. Leeds: 0532 306116. Manchester: 061-431 7191.

Please contact me with a free copy of your latest Investment Action Report.

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Address.....

County..... Tel. No.

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Leap year amount available for investment £.....

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MARKET REPORT

Gilts in strong gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug 15. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

The stock market ended the second leg of the three-week holiday account on a firm note yesterday. But business was slow and volume down as many traders closed their books early before the bank holiday.

Government securities had gains of up to 5/4 before last night's American money supply figures. Dealers were hoping that the figures were good, the last two sets have shown considerable improvement and are now on target, then the British Government might take the lead in nudging interest rates down.

Index-linked stock again attracted buying demand on the good yields offered and fears over a rising inflation rate. Bowater fell another 8p yesterday to 216p, having fallen 8p on Thursday on rumours that Hoare, Govett has revised its profits forecast downwards and thinks the shares overvalued.

The brokers denied the claim and says that it sticks by the figures it released in June. The interim figures are due next month.

Other leading equities recorded gains of between 5p to 10p

enabling the FT 30 share index to close 4.7 up at 722.1.

Travellers House shares held steady at 177p, despite the company admitting that it had received approaches to buy the Bristol Hotel in Mayfair and the Cunard International at Hamersmith, west London.

Some of the potential buyers are from overseas, Travellers said, but refused to disclose further details.

A Trafalgar spokesman said: "They are simply approaches and we get a lot of them." Although the modern Cunard hotel has not been valued the Bristol is thought to be worth about £20.

KCA Drilling steady at 40p, where the management company Roehold is buying out the KCA International 75 per cent interest, is assured of some strong support from its American bankers Chemical Bank.

subsidary from the cash draining parent - is already in for £18m of loans and is prepared

Speculators in Jackson Oil may be disappointed to know that no new announcements are expected, contrary to market rumour. The shares have run up to 110p since collapsing to 75p on news that two Brunel wells were dry.

Company brokers Laing and Crutchfield say there is enough cash to finance proven reserves and to cover committed exploration activity. However, negotiations may begin shortly for farming in other companies for prospects in Indonesia.

An announcement is expected in December. Laing consider the present share price about right.

to see that figure rise substantially.

The benefits, despite the poor interim figures from Drilling,

are cash generated staying in the company. The KCA chairman, Mr Paul Bristol, will have no executive power and money is to be made available so Drilling can expand.

The bank said that although Mr Bristol has a loan note over 18.3 million shares, if he wished to exercise his option he would have to cancel £6.7m of debt.

Although KCA Drilling will start trading independently with a heavy debt burden of £30m, Chemical Bank said it intends exercising an option to acquire 7 million shares at 37p.

Although an offer document has been issued at 37p to the 25 per cent minority shareholders more than 2,000 of them none are expected to accept the below market price offer and the company is keen for the shareholders to stay in.

The oil sector bounced up on comment over Thursday's profit figures from Bristol, up 12p to 254p, and ahead of next

week's figures from BP, 8p better at 438.

Ladbroke, also reporting next week, jumped 5p to 227p. The company is also expected to announce its decision on whether it will commit £30m to a new cable television project.

The activity surrounding the introduction of cable television prompted good demand for the leading television broadcasting companies. Granada rose 5p to 178p, while Anglia firmed 8p to 137p.

Millers Leisure firmed 20p to 145p in a thin market.

Further withdrawals of BPCC's offer for games maker John Waddington created confusion yesterday as doubt arose over who owns what. Waddington shares firmed 9p to 270p.

Fleet Holdings firmed 6p to 117p on news that the Australian company Bell Holdings had increased its stake.

A viability report on its exploring activities offshore Ireland due next week put buyers back in for Atlantic Resources up 15p to 340p. Egiton jumped 20p to 200p.

Wayne Lintott

THE TIMES 1000
1982/1983
The 1000 most important companies in the world
The 1000 most important companies in the world
The 1000 most important companies in the world
The 1000 most important companies in the world

Company	Price	Change	% P/E
Admiral	120.00	0.00	1.00
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Australia II is the threat to Peter de Savary's dream

Moment of truth for Victory

From David Miller
Newport, Rhode Island

Three years ago Peter de Savary, an entrepreneur, with only superficial knowledge of America's Cup racing, set out with unlimited enthusiasm and money to coordinate the most comprehensive British bid ever to challenge for the "gold cup". The moment of truth is at hand.

Tomorrow afternoon sees the climax of his highly extravagant, multi-million pound campaign, which has been a showbiz amalgam of fanatical professionalism, fanatical patriotism, fanatical speed, fanatical money, fanatical challenge for the "gold cup". The moment of truth is at hand.

Now, deservingly, Victory '83 represents the Royal Barham YC in the challenger's elimination final against the defending champion, the Australian II, in a contest which is probably the most important of the America's Cup series.

It is a fact that Victory '83 has subsequently been better, but that could be because any decision on the start of the race, which is the most important of the America's Cup series, is a matter of life and death.

Tomorrow's first race is critical. The point for de Savary to ponder, when his beautiful royal blue and gold challenger is launched out for the start, is whether he has made the most of his expensive assembled resources. In the words of one of the 11-man crew: "At last we've got a boat together."

If de Savary got just about everything right, there is a lingering feeling that he got one fundamental factor decidedly wrong - his

perseverance with the speed system and postponement of the important selection of the after-guard, the helmsman and the tactician, until the start of the race. It was an error, but it was a necessary one. The selection of the after-guard, the helmsman and the tactician, until the start of the race, is a matter of life and death.

The feeling among the more sanguine members of the crew, who tomorrow hold de Savary's as well as their reputation in their hands, that the selection delay was a necessary one, is a matter of life and death.

Warren Jones, executive manager of Australia II, passed yesterday in the continuing and uncomfortable responsibility of counter-punching against the New York Yacht Club's legal harassment to say: "The British have got five ethical challenges behind them, defeated. They are the most improved yacht of the last month. There is no other boat in Newport, American or foreign, which has put in as much effort as they have."

"Victory '83 are going to be tough, one mistake and they'll beat you. A month ago we would have had no

money, but now we won't be able to afford a mistake. It could easily be four or five either way. Though we don't expect it to be. We think we'll win four straight. If they win races we think it will be on our human error, that we will have let down a superb boat we have come to love."

De Savary's squad are wedded to their boat. All yesterday spent members worked in the building, painstakingly smoothing down the hull's paintwork with wet and dry emery paper. Yet, therein, ironically, lies the British selection error.

The British selection error, which has been a matter of life and death, is a matter of life and death. The British selection error, which has been a matter of life and death, is a matter of life and death.

Smith's performance, the 40-year-old Olympic veteran who would not willingly combine with Cribbin, also delivered an ultimatum: "I'm not going to be a second-hand man."

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Whitaker brothers in fine start

By Jenny MacArthur

The brothers Michael and John Whitaker from Yorkshire made a fine start to this weekend's Hickstead meeting when they finished first and second respectively in yesterday's Hammer 1.65 Derby trial, the opening international competition.

Michael was riding Samir Mahmood's Dancer, on whom he finished third in last year's British Jumping Derby, and John was riding C R Newton's Charles Angel. In third place was Derek Ricketts on Rodney Ward's great veteran, Hydrophane Coldstream. They were looking and going as well as ever.

The competition was a trial for tomorrow's formidable British Jumping Derby. Many of the Derby fences were featured in the event, including the Devil's Dyke and the Derby Bank. The most troublesome fence, however, proved to be an upright red ornamental gate, and a narrow set of upright white poles between two walls. Robert Smith on Sanyo Vista was the only rider to jump the walls rather than the poles. He was successful, but a knockdown on Sanyo Vista set the pace for the rest of the field.

David Broome, last year's winner of the competition, also failed to reach the jump-off when Queenway Royale hit fence 10. Broome was riding Queenway Royale in tomorrow's Derby, in the absence of his best horse, Last Resort, who is still recovering from an injury to his

Twelve horses reached the jump-off yesterday. Graham Fletcher, the first to go, has two fences down on Schneider Power Pack. Michael Whitaker on Dancer was the first to go, with a clear round in 38.9sec. Harvey Smith, on Sanyo Technology, was also clear, but in the slower time of 41 sec, a time shared by Chris Farke, on Rosamund.

A swift and daring round by John Whitaker, on Charlie's Angel, put him into second place with a time of 39.8sec. Paul Schockemuhle, from West Germany, the winner of the jumping derby last year, was not pushing Deisen hard in the trial competition, and completed a slow clear round. Lionel Dunning, however, made a brave attempt to get the time, but he was too late. He was riding Deisen, the horse he bought from Schockemuhle two years ago, but finished just short of the time in 41.1sec.

Derek Ricketts then showed that Hydrophane Coldstream, despite his 15 years, has lost nothing of his courage and accuracy, when the pair completed a faultless round in 39.9sec, putting him into third place.

LONG LIFE DERBY TRIAL: 1, Dancer (M Whitaker), 3 in 38.9sec; 2, Charles (A Angel), 3 in 39.8sec; 3, Hydrophane Coldstream (D Ricketts), 3 in 39.9sec.

Moves to halt decline

From Jim Railton
Duisburg, West Germany

The British crew go on trial tomorrow in the world championships on the Duisburg Wedan course, and the prospects of the 12 crews are not too healthy, an event contested by 31 nations. British hopes ride on Beryl Mitchell in the women's single sculls, the men's lightweight coxed four and the men's heavyweight coxed four.

British rowing in international terms has declined. This could be described as a holding year before the Olympic Games in Los Angeles next year. The British, I am told, are experimenting.

Experiments apart, Miss Mitchell in the single sculls is once again feared by the other competitors, but apart from the men's lightweight coxed four and heavyweight coxed four, the remainder of the British team is a mystery. In fact, the women's eight and coxed four, will race here for the first time ever.



Miss Mitchell: feared

together with the men's heavy-weight and lightweight crews, will race here for the first time ever.

The men's heavyweight coxed four might just produce a surprise in an event weakened by the absence of the Swiss world champions. The British four is stroked by John Blund, of Oxford, a tough competitor, who has good men behind him. The men's heavyweight coxed four has a wealth of experience, with Beattie, McNeill, Cross and Budget holders of Olympic and world medals, but the pressure is on them here to produce the goods.

Miss Mitchell is a tough competitor, although her boat bounces waterily when she is moving fast. She gained a silver medal in 1981, and surviving a horrific accident after fracturing her skull last year, but still finished fourth in the championships. Time is not on Miss Mitchell's side, she arrived late in the sport, but will go on in style. The British have their critics, but if this man made course is not invaded by the wind, they should give a good account of themselves.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Rovers give Fulham big incentive

By Keith Mackillo

Victory is sweet and Fulham and Kent Invicta search desperately for a taste of it in tomorrow's league games. Fulham, back in the first division, have lost their first two games away from home and will have dark visions of a swift return to the second unless they win.

The Craven Cottage players have every incentive to do so, since their visitors are the Challenge Cup winners of last season, Featherstone Rovers. Rovers upset the form book against Hull in May, but Fulham will have no room for sentiment tomorrow.

The celebrations at Middlesbrough were rudely curtailed by Cardiff City last Sunday. Perhaps Invicta were asked to bite off more than they can chew. Tomorrow's game at home to Doncaster seems much easier. Although Doncaster, who were beaten by 30 points by Hull last weekend, Tony Cooper, the former Swinton forward, plays his first match for Invicta.

Under the new laws, which encourage attack and keep the ball flowing on the sixth tackle, Hull Kingston Rovers, joint favourites for the title, have lost both opening games. They should win at home against newly promoted and already struggling Wakefield Trinity. On the crest of a wave at the moment, Whist should account for Leigh.

WIST DIVISION: Swinton (Murray) v. Hull (3.30); Featherstone (Rovers) v. Hull (4.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (4.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (5.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (5.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (6.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (6.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (7.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (7.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (8.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (8.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (9.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (9.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (10.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (10.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (11.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (11.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (12.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (12.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (1.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (1.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (2.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (2.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (3.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (3.45); Wakefield (Trinity) v. Hull (4.15); Wakefield (Trinity) v. 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and it awkward to pick up their own ends.

Once America is fit to resume his traditional partnership with Hoddle, Northernham: Hootsey will match anyone in the creative department. If they have lacked a consistent backbencher. So, too, has Arsenal, who are looking, perhaps too optimistically, to Nicholas to provide firepower that has not been seen at Highbury since the departure of Stapleton.

Graham Taylor admits that for the first time in seven years he cannot reasonably expect any improvement from his West End side. Last season, especially as he has lost Hissett, his most prolific scorer. Yet his uncomplicated system 'could surprise a few European teams in the UEFA Cup, Kaiserslautern, of West Germany, are their first opponents.

Wardlaw's replacements as the manager of Queens Park Rangers, fresh from the second sentence and frolicking on a plastic pavement at home. The other two newcomers, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Leicester City, may have changed almost everything, but they are bound to avoid playing out to Grass again.

The bookmakers have grouped Sunderland, Birmingham City, Luton Town and Notts County as well as Coventry City, who have changed almost everything, but their virtue and ground, as the favourites for relegation. Yet there are others, lower down the Canon League, who will be fighting a more serious battle: Not all of them are sure to win.

Football fixtures, Page 18

Wolves v Liverpool


A meeting of two teams starting the season with question marks against their names. Whether the addition of Towser from Rotherham and Downes to certain qualities will enable promoted Wolves to flourish in the first is doubtful. The suspicion exists that this season could see a slight decline in Liverpool's high standards.

Liverpool have been joined by Blackburn, one of the two new signings (Gilliepie is the other) plays in attack.

WOLVES (from J Burridge, J Humphrey, G Palmer, G Smith, J Pepper, A Dodd, D Ridge, W Nelson, Gray, M Eves, W Livingston, P Daniel, A Towner, K.

LIVERPOOL: S Grubbelaar, F Neal, E Kennedy, M Lawtonson, A Hansen, C Johnston, S Lee, K Dalgleish, J Rank, M Robinson, G Sampson. Set to be named.

Arsenal v Luton Town



Nickoles


Will Charlie Nickoles bring success back to Highway? Arsenal are adopting a more positive approach this season and planning to play the ball forward more rapidly to try and benefit from their new signings, the biggest transfer of the summer. Luton's determination to attack and their own porous defence make them a good team to watch.

For a forward to begin against, and then to finish, without being singled, the goalkeeper, Steve O'Leary, and the defence, which have plenty of opportunities to shine.

ARSENAL: P. Jennings, S. Robson, K. Sanson, D. B. Bates, D. Burrows, G. Hargreaves, G. Huxford, G. Rix, J. O'Leary, C. Hill, B. Tibbot, P. Davis, G. Smith, M. McDermott, C. Nickoles, A. Woodcock. **Salt:** C. Whyne.

LUTON: (Promt.) L. Sealey, K. Stephens, W. Turner, R. Horton, P. Elliott, M. Doughty, R. Hill, B. Sisto, J. Walsh, F. Burn, D. Moss, M. Thomas, R. Antic, J. Ayton.

Chelsea v Derby County



Robertson

With Hoffman, Hanson and Gennadi on the respective hook, one could easily think one has been transported back a decade to the glorious early seventies, but the supporting casts are unlikely to take that dream to reality. Chelsea have six new signings: altogether, including Derwin, leading goalkeeper Dwyer, but Derwy have been comparatively restrained, going for quality. Robertson from Nottingham Forest and aggression from Bradford's Campbell. Their third newcomer is another former Kersay player, Flannery, in Chesterfield.

CHELSEA (from): E. Nizkorvich; J. Hollis; McLean; A. Hudson, N. Spaceman, C. Hitchings, Pates, J. Buxtoned, C. Walker, D. Dixon, D. Speedie, Canoville, C. Lee.

DERBY: S. Cherry, J. Backley, A. Gennadi, Powell, P. Fletcher, C. Flannery, D. Davidson, Campbell, F. Hooks, J. Robertson.

FINAL SCORES: 282 A No.
71 76 70 76 284 J

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